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ART. 1. ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

*Survey of the progress and actual state of
NATURAL SCIENCES in the UNITED
STATES of AMERICA, from the begin-
ning of this century to the present time.*

INTRODUCTION.

MERCHANTS feel an interest in trade, poets in literature, painters in pictures, every one in the objects connected with his pursuits and labours: it is therefore very natural, that those who have devoted a share of their attention to the noble pursuits of science, should likewise feel a desire to take an occasional survey of the progress, situation, and prospects of the various branches of science, which they may have undertaken to cultivate, as well to ascertain their positive advances as their relative improvements.

Among sciences, those connected with the natural and material objects of the universe, claim of course a conspicuous rank, since they relate to every thing which we perceive, or which falls under the observations of our senses. Even the numberless arts which human ingenuity has devised, for the purpose of imitating or modifying those objects, ought to class with them; but custom separates them, while it acknowledges their intimate connexion, and absolute dependance. Natural Sciences are therefore limited to three great branches: COSMONY, or Natural History, which enables us to distinguish, describe, value, and employ the natural objects and bodies: PHYSICS, or Natural Philosophy, which teaches us their functions, laws, and phenomena: CHEMISTRY, or Natural Analysis, which decomposes and recomposes them, reaching the elements of nature. They are divided into many collateral branches, such as Astronomy, Geonomy, Botany, Zoology, Optics, Statics, &c. which are again subdivided into numberless minor branches.

In the last century these sciences were yet in their infancy in the United States,

as was every thing else; but nevertheless, that first period of their cultivation was adorned by the following eminent or worthy writers, Winthrop, Franklin, Jefferson, Rittenhouse, Clayton, Bartram, Walter, Barton, Muhlenberg, Priestley, Drs. Mitchell, Colden, Garden, Marshall, Carver, Belknap, Cutler, &c. and among the visitors or travellers, Catesby, John Mitchell, Kalm, Bose, Castiglione, Vieillot, Palissot-Beauvais, Volney, Mason, Mackenzie, Frazer, Dupratz, Charlevoix, Michaux, Schoepf, &c.—some of whom belong to both centuries, and will be noticed again hereafter.

Since 1800, a great impulse has been given to some branches of these sciences; many societies have been established for the purpose of fostering their study; museums have been formed in many cities; professorships established to teach every branch; and, at present, a great number of young and able observers or writers begin to appear every where, who bid fair to reflect honour on themselves and their country. To encourage the disposition which is manifesting itself is the design of this review. The record of the labours of their predecessors, whilst it is a grateful tribute for past services, will tend to excite the emulation of the rising generation, and may serve to enlarge the ideas of European writers, in reference to our general and national character.

All those who pursue the noble path of natural knowledge are united by a friendly bond; although strangers, although distant, as soon as they become known to each other, either personally or by fame, they are friends: it is our object, if practicable, to strengthen those ties, not merely among ourselves, but between American and European writers.

Let no national rivalry interfere—it ought to be unknown among men of enlightened and enlarged minds: and let no mean jealousy arise among ourselves—it

can never be fostered by the generous and the wise. But above all let us disregard those snarlers and sneerers, whose profound ignorance prevents them from conceiving the scope and use of our pursuits, and without allowing ourselves to deviate from the honourable paths of knowledge and improvement, let us steadily persevere in observing, collecting, and imparting, useful facts and truths—in improving ourselves and mankind.

We shall divide this subject into two parts: first, collective improvements and labours—second, individual labours and discoveries, concluding by some remarks on what remains to be done.

PART I. *Collective Improvements and labours.*

At the beginning of this century there were only three learned societies in the United States, which included natural sciences within their range; and even they did not assume their study as the base of their labours.

These were the Philosophical Society, at Philadelphia, founded in 1744; the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, at Boston, founded in 1780, and the Connecticut Academy of Arts and Sciences, founded in 1799. Some other societies had directed their pursuits towards some of the auxiliary branches; such as the Agricultural Societies of Charleston, and Massachusetts, the Society for the Promotion of Useful Arts and Agriculture, &c. of Albany, and several Medical or Chemical Societies in different cities.

While these societies are mentioned, it will not be improper to notice their labours in this century. The Philosophical Society of Philadelphia has published three volumes of transactions in 1802, 4 and 6, containing many valuable communications; but it has promulged nothing since, and the Magellanic premium, of which it has the disposal, has not been awarded for many years. The Academy of Arts and Sciences of Boston has published two volumes of transactions, 2d. and 3d. The Society of Albany has published, occasionally, some tracts connected with its views. The Connecticut Academy has published a volume of transactions in 1810. The other societies have not published any thing to our knowledge; but they have probably been instrumental in imparting knowledge to their members, and nourishing a taste for their pursuits.

Since 1800 the following learned societies have been established, mostly, as will be perceived, for the cultivation of natural sciences.

The Linnean Society of Philadelphia, founded in 1804: whose first president was Dr. Benj. Barton, and whose actual president is Dr. W. P. C. Barton. It has not been very active, and had even become nearly extinct; but has lately been revived. None of its labours have been published except an address of the first president.

The Linnean Society of Boston, founded in 18**th. Its actual president is Judge Davis: it has not published any transactions.

The Columbian Chemical Society of Philadelphia, founded in 1811, which has published a volume of memoirs in 1813.

The Literary and Philosophical Society of New-York, founded in 1814. President, Dr. Dewitt Clinton. It has been very active, has published in 1815 a first volume of transactions highly valuable, and is preparing a second for the press.

The Literary and Philosophical Society of Charleston, founded towards 1814. President, Stephen Elliot, who has published his Introductory Discourse.

The Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, established in 1815. President, Mr. Patterson: the members meet weekly, and instruct each other by lectures; an example worthy of imitation. It has formed a museum; and since May, 1817, has begun to issue a monthly sheet, under the name of *Journal of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia*, and after the plan of the *bulletins of the Philomatic Society of Paris*, which is the first of its kind in the United States, and will materially contribute to spread natural knowledge.

The Cabinet of Sciences, of Philadelphia, established in 1815. President, Dr. Clymer. Nearly on the plan of the foregoing society; but not so active, it has undertaken to form a botanical garden.

The Columbian Institute, of Washington, was established in 1816: the president is Dr. Cutbush; it has for its object to encourage the cultivation of sciences and arts; but as it meets only twice a year, it will not be able to become of much avail.

The Lyceum of Natural History, of New-York, was formed in 1817: President, Dr. Mitchill—it holds weekly meetings. Within a few months, this society, by the activity of its members, has begun a museum, and an herbarium: it has appointed lecturers on all the branches of Natural History, and travelling committees, and proposes to publish its transactions in a short time.

Besides the above, another learned so-

ciety, under the name of School of Arts and Literature, has been established at Cincinnati, in Ohio, towards 1814; but we are unacquainted with its officers or labours: it deserves attention, however, as the first instance of such an institution in the Western States.

Several other minor societies, for auxiliary branches of natural sciences, have likewise been established at different periods; such as, the *Agricultural Society of Philadelphia*, of which Judge Peters is the worthy president, and which has been very active, having published two volumes of important papers: the *Historical Society of New-York*, which has lately assumed the subject of natural history, and formed a museum, &c.—besides some new Medical Societies, to whose lot it falls to elucidate the natural history of man; and three Botanical Societies in Utica, Philadelphia, and Boston, lately established.

The collective labours of these societies have been surpassed by the personal labours of their members, and other individuals, which we shall notice at length in the second part: but we mean to give here an account of the gradual means employed by them.

Only two small museums of natural history existed in the United States in 1800, in Philadelphia and Boston. These establishments, which increase the taste for natural beings, or even create it, when the simple survey of nature cannot inspire it, have become numerous and splendid of late; some of them begin to equal the best European museums; among which, those of Peale in Philadelphia, and Scudder in New-York, deserve particular notice for elegance of taste and abundance of objects. There are also public museums and menageries, or exhibitions of living animals, in the following cities: Boston, Salem, Baltimore, Charleston, Norfolk, Lexington, New-Haven, &c. They have all been collected by individual exertions, and the liberal patronage of the public has generally well rewarded them; in some instances legislative or municipal patronage has been extended to them, by the grant of suitable rooms, &c.

Private collections are increasing every day in number and value; almost every University and College has a small museum, or a collection of minerals, shells, &c.: many gentlemen and ladies begin to delight in procuring collections, which has a general tendency to increase the taste for rational and innocent amusements. Among those private collections,

the following deserve notice, as the most rich and valuable. The mineralogical collections of Dr. Bruce in New-York, of Col. Gibbs, in the museum of the Historical Society of New-York, and of Yale College at New-Haven, &c. The conchological collections of John G. Bogert, Esq. of New-York, and of the Academy of Natural Sciences, in Philadelphia, &c. The entomological collections of Mr. Say in Philadelphia, of Mr. Torrey in New-York, &c. The general collections of Dr. Mitchill in the University of New-York, of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, &c.

Herbariums, or collections of specimens of plants, have been made by many, but they are generally confined to American plants; the most valuable are those of the late Rev. Dr. Henry Muhlenberg, in the possession of his son, Dr. Muhlenberg of Lancaster, of Mr. Elliot of Charleston, of Mr. Collins of Philadelphia, of Dr. Eddy of New-York, of Dr. Bigelow of Boston, of Dr. W. P. C. Barton of Philadelphia, of Mr. Torrey of New-York, of Mr. Rafinesque of New-York, &c.

Botanical gardens are connected with botany, medicine, agriculture, horticulture, and become useful appendages thereto, when properly directed; but no such public gardens have been endowed as yet in the United States, upon the liberal European system. Mr. Bartram's private botanical garden was perhaps the only one in existence at the beginning of this century; since which period many similar private gardens have sprung, such as Mr. W. Hamilton's at the Woodlands, near Philadelphia, Dr. Hosack's at Elgin, near New-York, several in the vicinity of Boston, and one in Charleston, &c. The garden of Elgin has lately been purchased by the legislature of New-York, and given to the University; but it is much to be regretted, that it has meanwhile been neglected, and almost destroyed, because no able director was appointed. Several new botanical gardens are in contemplation, by subscription, in Philadelphia, New-York, and elsewhere; but unless they are liberally endowed, they will not become of permanent utility. The botanical garden at Cambridge, forms however a partial exception, and is an useful appendage of that University.

Gardens on a more moderate scale, but not less useful, are common near Charleston, Alexandria, Baltimore, Philadelphia, New-York, Boston, &c. where useful and ornamental plants, trees, and seeds are raised for sale: those of Mr.

Macmahon near Germantown, and of Mr. Prince at Flushing, &c. may be quoted as examples. The establishments more closely connected with agriculture, such as nurseries, seed-stores, &c. have also increased in proportion, among which the nursery of fruit trees of Mr. Cox, near Burlington in New-Jersey, has ranked among the most valuable.

Agriculture, the base of our real wealth, is of course attended to with unceasing care, and a few worthy individuals, such as Chancellor Livingston, Dr. Mease, Judge Peters, John Lowell, Esq. &c. have been endeavouring to study it and teach it as a science; but their attempts have generally failed, because the great mass of farmers conceive they know enough! Enlightened proprietors and farmers, are not however, willing to admit of improvements, and to allow their practice to be directed by a wise theory.

Horticulture, both practical and ornamental, is likewise become fashionable among our wealthy citizens. The cultivation of our native ornamental plants—and shrubs is spreading everywhere, and exotics are not neglected; green-houses are quite common, and some hot-houses are to be found in the vicinity of every city.

Extensive public libraries, on a liberal plan, had been established last century; they have gradually increased their stock of books, where valuable materials for the study of natural sciences are to be met; those of Philadelphia, Baltimore, New-York, and Boston, hold the first rank. The libraries of Hospitals, Colleges, &c. have likewise been materially and usefully increased; the libraries of Dr. Benjamin Barton, and Dr. Hosack, have been purchased by the hospitals of Philadelphia and New-York, and are exceedingly rich in rare books of natural history.

Most towns, and even many villages, have established circulating or subscription libraries on improved plans; they convey useful publications into every corner of the Union. Atheneums have been formed in Boston, Philadelphia, Lexington, and elsewhere, whose object is to collect useful works, and where the literary journals of America and Europe are regularly received; as they are likewise in the Literary Rooms of Messrs. Eastburn and Co. of New-York. The Atheneum of Boston contains one of the most extensive and valuable libraries in the United States. Reading-rooms and atheneums, on a minor scale, are not uncommon throughout the Union.

Public instruction has kept pace with our rapid increase of population, which is evinced by the general increase of stu-

dents, and the endowment of many new colleges and academies, particularly in the western and southern States, among which may be mentioned those of Lexington in Kentucky, of Milledgeville in Georgia, of Columbia in South Carolina, &c. In all the colleges of the United States, which amount to more than forty, natural philosophy is taught; in some of them chemistry; in a few natural history.

In the Universities, all those branches have professors, often men of ability; but they are generally annexed to the schools of medicine. In the University of Cambridge, however, a distinct course of lectures on Natural Sciences, is delivered by professors in all the branches of those sciences. In the University of Pennsylvania, since the death of Dr. Benjamin Barton, a faculty of natural sciences has been established last year: this is the first instance of the kind in the United States. The following professorships were appointed and filled; of natural philosophy, of botany, of natural history, particularly zoology, of comparative anatomy, of mineralogy and chemistry applied to the arts;—those of the institutes of chemistry and materia medica, being left united with the medical faculty.

It is to be regretted that professors are sometimes appointed who have yet to learn what they are to teach: instruction will flourish with more rapidity when they shall be selected, in all instances, among the most worthy and learned candidates.

Public lectures on the most popular branches of natural sciences have been given by many private lecturers, e. g. by Mr. Correa in Philadelphia, on botany, and the natural method; by Mr. Whitlow, on demonstrations of botany, in New-York, Philadelphia, Albany, New-Haven, Boston, &c.; by Mr. Hare, on chemistry, in Philadelphia; by Dr. Bruce, on mineralogy in New-York, &c.

Natural knowledge has been gradually diffusing itself by all these means, as well as by the individual exertions of the observers of nature, their writings and publications; among which, periodical ones are not to be reckoned the least useful. Even newspapers and literary journals have often been the vehicles of much useful knowledge on the physical and geological geography of our country, the natural history of our shores, meteors, &c.: and even those daily papers which appear to be the most hostile to knowledge and science, cannot help to convey, occasionally, valuable facts belonging to, or connected with, natural sciences. The periodical works dedicated to literature,

such as the *Port Folio*, the *Analectic Magazine*, the *Portico*, &c. have not forgotten to bestow a share of their attention on sciences. But it is in the periodical medical journals, (and scientific publications,) that the greatest share of natural knowledge has been introduced, as if we would imitate the early periods of European science, in connecting natural with medical sciences. The *Medical Repository of New-York* conducted principally by Dr. Mitchill, and alternately by Dr. Miller, Dr. Akerly, and Dr. Pascalis, and which begun in 1797, has lasted with success ever since, includes the greatest mass of facts and knowledge on the natural history of our country, and on physical and chemical improvements. Dr. Benjamin Barton's *Medical and Physical Journal*, which lasted only from 1804 to 1803, ranks next, and contains many valuable tracts on natural history. The other works of a similar nature, which may deserve our notice, are Mease's *Archives*, Cooper's *Emporium*, the *Medical Journals of Philadelphia*, *Baltimore*, and *Boston*, the *Medical and Philosophical Register of New-York*, the *Eclectic Repository*, &c.

Periodical works, exclusively dedicated to natural science generally, or to peculiar branches of it, have not yet been numerous, owing, perhaps, to a deficiency of public patronage, although it would appear that the numbers of individuals feeling an interest in such studies, might afford a sufficient encouragement. Whenever a regular and general work of that nature shall be countenanced it may become of permanent utility. Dr. Bruce's *Mineralogical Journal*, which began to appear in 1810, but of which only a few numbers have been published, at irregular intervals, was perhaps the first ever attempted in the United States; and it contains much valuable matter on mineralogy and geology: it is contemplated to be continued occasionally. The *Monthly Journal of the Academy of Natural Sciences*, of Philadelphia, begun this year, is the next; it assumes zoology and botany principally, and its concise shape will not diminish its utility. The *Annals of Nature*, which were to begin this year, have been postponed for a few years, and the *Annals of the Lyceum of Natural History* are soon to be undertaken on a suitable plan.

Notwithstanding the collective utility of the above works, they are liable to one objection, if they contribute to spread and diffuse knowledge, yet they scatter it too much; as it is difficult to become

acquainted with, or to possess the whole collections; so that if it were possible to embody, in some suitable shape, the most interesting, or new matter, which they contain, the acquisition of such knowledge would be greatly facilitated hereafter. Many tracts and pamphlets are often lost or forgotten, which might by this means be rescued from oblivion.

Although a particular notice of the works of each author will belong to the second part of this Essay, it may be proper to indicate here which were the principal works on natural sciences, published during the period we allude to, or some of those which we conceive to have a claim on our gratitude, as having aided to enlarge the sphere of our knowledge.

Those that deserve the first rank are Wilson's *Ornithology of the United States*, which, for brilliancy of style, elegance, accuracy and novelty, can boldly be compared with Buffon's natural history of birds.—Muhlenberg's botanical works now in the press.—Elliot's *Botany of the Southern States*, which has just begun to be published.—Mitchill's *Fishes of New-York*, an original work, on a subject entirely new.—Lewis's and Clarke's travels on the Missouri and to the North-West Coast of America, which are replete with new facts and discoveries, &c.

The following claim also our attention, although of minor importance: Cleaveland's *Mineralogy*, Barton's *elements of Botany*, Clinton's *Discourse*, Drayton's view of South-Carolina, Drake's view of Cincinnati, Williamson on the climate of America, Mease's *Geological survey of the United States*, Ellicot's astronomical and meteorological observations, Morse's *geography of the United States*, &c.

Many valuable works have been published in Europe, which have a reference to our country, and are grounded on observations made in it; they belong, therefore, (in part at least,) to our scientific attainments. Among these the following deserve our notice: Volney's view of the climate and soil of the United States, Michaux's *Flora Boreali-Americana*, Pursh's *Flora of North-America*, Vieillot's *Histoire naturelle des Oiseaux de l'Amerique Septentrionale*, (a work anterior to Wilson's, but unknown to him,) Robin's *voyages à la Louisiane*, Michaux Junior's *Trees of North-America*, &c.

A small proportion only of the valuable works published in Europe on the natural sciences are reprinted, or even imported into the United States; but some popular works are occasionally or

periodically republished, which help us materially to improve ourselves; among which we deem the following worthy of notice; Davy's philosophy of chemistry and agricultural chemistry, Rees's Encyclopedia, the Edinburgh Encyclopedia, (which contains the latest improvements in natural sciences,) Chaptal's chemistry, St. Pierre's Studies of Nature, Volney's view of the United States, Aikin's Mineralogy, some scientific journals, the travels of Salt, Barrows, Humboldt, &c. A few original translations have even been undertaken, such as Molina's history of Chili, Richard's Botanical Dictionary, &c.

The printing of useful works has generally increased in this century, not however in proportion with the publication of books of a less permanent value. It is much to be wished that our publishers, without divesting themselves totally of their private views and purposes, would encourage and patronize works of an original nature, or an useful tendency, in preference to those of a lighter cast.

The States which have conspicuously distinguished themselves in the cultivation and promotion of science, or the number of eminent characters they have produced, are New-York, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, and South Carolina. Those which appear to have been the least conspicuous, are New-Jersey and Vermont, the small States of Delaware and Rhode-Island, and the new States of Tennessee, Louisiana, Indiana, and Mississippi. Let us hope that a noble emulation may arise between them, destitute of any little jealousy, each striving to excel the other in liberality, energy, and accumulation of knowledge.

We shall proceed to give a survey of the collective labours of each class of society, and each class of scientific writers, wishing thereby to inspire them likewise with a spirit of emulation, that each may endeavour to do most, and become pre-eminent.

The class of Physicians has stood till now, foremost in point of numbers and qualifications; their liberal education and extensive instruction fits them for study and scientific pursuits. They fill generally the chairs in the universities, and some of our most eminent writers belong to this class; such as Dr. Mitchill, Dr. Barton, Dr. Rush, Dr. Hosack, Dr. Mease, &c. They are continually increasing in number and respectability; and when it is considered, that nearly eight hundred students of medicine annually attend the lectures in the Universities of Philadelphia, New-York, Bos-

ten, Baltimore, &c. and more than one hundred receive annually their degrees, it may easily be conceived that their body is not likely to diminish.

We shall probably be unable to notice, in our account of individual labours, all the members of the medical class who have communicated to the public, through the journals, or otherwise, partial labours, connected with natural sciences, but we avail ourselves of this opportunity to mention the names of some of those, who have added to our stock of knowledge.

Some facts connected with the natural history of man have been partly elucidated by Dr. Warren of Boston; Drs. Pascalis, Francis, and Hosack, of New-York, Dr. Davidge of Baltimore, Dr. Wistar, and Dr. Physick of Philadelphia, Dr. Rush, Dr. Brickell, Rev. Dr. S. S. Smith, &c.

Mineral Springs have been analyzed by Dr. Seaman, Dr. Waterhouse, Dr. Meade, Dr. Rouelle, Dr. Green, Dr. Steele, &c.

Many important parts of materia medica have been illustrated, particularly those derived from the vegetable kingdom, by Dr. Macbride, Dr. Lining, Dr. Chapman, Dr. Akerly, Dr. Glen, Dr. Bigelow, &c. and of course by Dr. B. Barton and Dr. S. L. Mitchill, who have paid attention to this and every other part of medicine connected with nature.

Among the inaugural dissertations or theses, published annually to obtain the degrees of M. D. several are on the properties of our native plants, which have, thereby, been often thoroughly investigated. A collection of those theses, or rather an epitome of their contents would be a valuable addition to our knowledge of practical botany. It may not be improper to notice a few: on *Phytolacca decandra*, by Dr. Shultz, on *Fucus edulis*, by Dr. Griffin, on *Rhus glabrum* and *vernix*, by Dr. Horsefield, on *Arbutus uvaursi*, by Dr. J. J. Mitchill, on *Magnolia glauca*, on *Eupatorium perfoliatum*, on *Liriodendron tulipiferum*, on *Cornus florida*, on *Pyrola maculata*, on *Asclepias decumbens*, &c. &c.

Fewer parts of animal materia-medica have been investigated; we can only remember the memoirs of Dr. Isaac Chapman, on some new American species of officinal Meloes, and Dr. Waterhouse, Junr. on some new species of American officinal Leeches or Hirudos, &c.

Some other medical gentlemen have paid attention to the economical uses of organized bodies, and their natural history, such as Dr. Bancroft on vegetable dyes, Dr. Seybert, on fixing the dyes afforded by plants, Dr. Barnwell, and Dr.

Fothergill on the power of habit in plants and animals, &c. : but we are yet in want of a general work on our native dyes, and all the economical uses of our native plants.

The names and labours of many other worthy physicians may be seen on perusal of the Medical Repository, and other medical journals, which we unwillingly omit, from a fear of swelling this essay beyond our original intention.

After the medical faculty, the next class is that of our enlightened clergymen : many of whom do not disdain to enlighten the minds as well as the souls of their fellow-citizens. Their attainments and leisure enable them to devote much learning and time to useful pursuits whenever they are so inclined. Their influence is great over the bulk of the nation, and their examples might find many imitators. They generally fill the literary professorships in the colleges, and on them devolves therefore the instruction of youth. Among the worthy members of the clergy who have studied or taught to advantage, the natural sciences, we shall mention the Rev. Dr. Henry Muhlenburgh, the Rev. Drs. Cutler, Collins, Dwight, S. S. Smith, Vanvleck, Schœffer, Steinhöver, Dencke, Melsheimer, &c.

Our enterprising merchants have it in their power to do much in favour of science, and to forward or increase our knowledge of foreign countries and productions by employing enlightened supercargoes and captains, or by directing them to bring home useful and rare productions, with which they may chance to meet. Let us consider that we scarcely know yet one third part of the fishes and animals that swim in the sea, that the whole productions of the east and west shores of Africa, the whole west shore of America from Cape Horn to Behring's strait, and nearly the whole of the eastern shore from Cape Florida to the islands of Falkland, besides Australia, Polynesia, Borneo, &c. are nearly unknown ; even their plants, reptiles, and shells ! What a vast field of inquiry for whoever has the least share of self-pride or good will ! Our mercantile gentlemen and travellers may therefore add greatly to our general knowledge, and raise our national character. They have begun to do it, and we could name many merchants and mariners who have added to our collections and museums ; and not a few who have increased the stock of our knowledge : but our catalogue would be too incomplete to do justice to this class of our fellow-citizens.

Gentlemen of the navy, and consuls, have the same means in their power abroad, and officers of the army on our frontiers. I shall mention with pleasure the names of Com. Decatur, Capt. Porter, &c. of the navy ; Mr. Rich, consul at Alicant ; Mr. Warren, consul at Paris ; and Capts. Lewis and Clarke, and Major Pike, &c. of the army ; as having partly been engaged in enlarging the sphere of our knowledge.

The profession of the law would appear the least likely to afford men of science, yet we feel proud to notice among its members some of our most eminent and useful citizens, such as Chancellor Livingston, Judges Peters, Cooper, Davis, Woodward, &c.

Among our wealthy citizens, planters, proprietors, &c. we notice with pleasure the names of Thomas Jefferson, De Witt Clinton, General Humphreys, Col. Geo. Gibbs, Messrs. Dunbar, Z. Collins, R. Haines, Leconte, W. Hamilton, Herbermont, &c. Such gentlemen possessing wealth and leisure, employ both to advantage and honour by patronising those who are deficient in either, or by attending carefully to the pleasing studies which natural objects afford.

Some other classes or professions have also produced men of talents and zeal : we shall notice among the professors, Messrs. Peck, Griscom, Patterson, Cleveland, &c. ; among the engineers and surveyors, Messrs. Ellicot, Fulton, Dewitt, Partridge, Latrobe, Baldwin, &c. ; among the geographers and travellers, Messrs. Mellish, Spafford, Morse, Darby, Harris, Brackenridge, Ker, Hutchins, &c. ; and among the historians, Belknap, author of the history of New Hampshire ; Sullivan of Maine, Williams of Vermont, Ramsay of South Carolina, Williamson of North Carolina, Smith of New-York, &c. ; some of which were published at the close of the last century. They have all added something to the knowledge of our country.

Many ladies begin to show a taste for useful pursuits ; they attend botanical and chemical lectures ; but none have, as yet, distinguished themselves. The only one that may deserve mention, is Mrs. Gambold, who sent plants to the Rev. Dr. Muhlenberg from the Cherokee country ; others are satisfied by feeling a lively interest in the pursuits and success of their relatives.

Writers, or eminent professors, on natural sciences, may be divided into seven classes ; 1. astronomers, 2. philosophers, 3. chemists, 4. geognosists,

5. mineralogists, 6. botanists, 7. zoologists. We shall notice under each class a few of those amongst us, whose reputation or real worth entitles them to be known.

Our best astronomers are, or have been, during this century, Dr. Webber, Messrs. Ellicot, Dewitt, Williams, Bowditch, Gannet, Winthrop, Bradley, Lambert, Farrar, &c. &c.

Our philosophers are Messrs. Jefferson, Clinton, Vaughan, Bentley, Winthrop, Patterson, Williamson, Griscom, Wood, Dupont, Woodward, Rafinesque, &c. Drs. Rush, Cutbush, Mitchill, Ramsay, Priestley, &c. &c.

Our chemists, Drs. Macneven, Dexter, Silliman, S. L. and T. Mitchill, Coxe, Cutbush, Seybert, Priestley, Gorham, &c. Messrs. Cooper, Hare, Griscom, &c. &c.

Our geognosists, Drs. Mitchill, Drake, Cleaveland, Mease, &c. Messrs. Volney, Rafinesque, Cutbush, Wood, Lewis, Dunbar, Day, Maclure, Hayden, &c. &c.

Our mineralogists, Drs. S. L. Mitchill, Cleaveland, Bruce, Seybert, &c. Messrs. Steinhöver, Gibbs, Bogert, Collins, Conrad, &c.

Our botanists, Messrs. Michaux, father and son, Pursh, Peck, Rafinesque, Collins, Leconte, Elliot, Bartram, Bradbury, Nuttall, Torrey, Robin, Correa, Rich, &c. Drs. Muhlenberg, Benjamin Barton, W. P. C. Barton, Bigelow, Boot, Eddy, Brickell, Waterhouse, father and son, Cutler, &c. &c.

Our zoologists are, or have been the following, during this century, which we divide into general zoologists, such as, Drs. Benj. Barton, S. L. Mitchill, S. Akerly, S. Mott, Waterhouse, Jun. &c. Messrs. Bartram, Rafinesque, Lesueur, Bosc, Leconte, Say, Peale, Ord, &c.; and partial zoologists, who have only studied one branch of the science, such as ornithology, ichthyology, entomology, conchology, or zootomy, which are Messrs. Wilson, (o) Torrey, (e) Melsheimer, (e) Clemens, (z) Bogert, (c) Knevels, (c) Dr. Wistar, (z) &c.

They cannot boast to have made so many discoveries as their fellow-observers in England, France, Germany, &c. particularly in the former branches; but yet they have somewhat increased the general stock of science, and have materially added to the physical and natural knowledge of our country, and North-America in general.

Our astronomers and philosophers have observed, with accuracy, the different celestial phenomena visible in our part of the globe, such as comets, eclipses, solar clouds or spots, &c.; longitudes

have been taken or verified, new magnetic properties ascertained, several ingenious theories offered, and scientific principles taught with care.

Our chemists and mineralogists have discovered many substances heretofore not detected in North-America, and even some new substances; they have verified the European discoveries, and in a few instances anticipated them in some measure; mineral waters, metallic substances, and fossil bodies, have been analyzed; some improvements in nomenclature, apparatus and experiments have been introduced, and experimental chemistry has been eagerly taught to all the classes of society.

Our geognosists have been very successful in the study of our atmosphere, waters, and solid earth. Many meteors have been observed and described, such as parhelias, aurora-borealis, meteoric stones, unusual lights, shooting stars, globes of fire, &c.; new theories of tides have been proposed, the Atlantick currents have again been examined, the floating islands of ice discovered in their southern course, their influence proved; the theory of our winds completely investigated, and their influence on our climate ascertained; our mountains have been thoroughly explored, their heights measured, and their structure explained; the Missouri has been navigated to its source, five thousand miles from the sea, and many other rivers accurately surveyed; a sort of tide has been detected in our great lakes, and the beds of our ancient lakes have been perceived. The limits of our different soils have been fixed, the ancient state of some districts properly inquired into: many organic remains have been found all over the alluvial and secondary stratas; those of the huge Mastodon or Mammoth were brought to light nearly entire, Elephants, Rhinoceros, Megasaurus, Sharks, (equally bulky,) &c. have been dug from their graves; numberless fossil shells, and polyps, have been met every where; beds of coal are found from the shores of the Atlantic to the foot of the rocky mountains; many mines and native metals have been discovered; and every part of geonomy relating to the United States more or less illustrated. Yet much remains to be done in order to acquire a complete knowledge of our part of the earth, or even to bring that knowledge to a level with the geognosy of Europe.

Our botanists have succeeded in enumerating nearly five thousand species of plants, (one half of which were new,) with-

in our territory; the eastern productions have been thoroughly examined, and probably three-fourths of the species actually existing, within the limits of the Atlantic States, are now described and named; one half of those living in the western States, and one-fourth of those inhabiting our territories and immense western region. Two general Floras have been published. The economical and medical properties of many of our trees, shrubs, and native vegetables, have been likewise attentively investigated; their geography and natural history have been carefully attended to, their physiology and disorders partly inquired into, and some parts of their botanical pathology have been brought into notice. Our trees have nearly all been ascertained, and the greatest proportion of our shrubs: the study of phenogamous plants has been well attended to, and that of our cryptogamous plants attempted in many instances. The elements of botany have been taught with success on the Linnean principles, with a few improvements occasionally; but not with all those lately introduced in Europe. Many parts of botany, such as etymology, biography, bibliography, anatomy, and the knowledge of exotic species, have very seldom been attempted. The cultivation of useful and ornamental trees and plants, in fields or gardens, has met with much attention and success.

Those philosophers and naturalists who have taken up the subject of man, and animated beings, have been enabled to add much to our previous, but scanty knowledge of the American aborigenes and animals: their exertions have been rewarded by luminous discoveries. Many new nations, and tribes of the American race have been visited; and it has been ascertained that the Malay breed has widely contributed to the population of our continent, in addition to the Atlants, Tartars, Samojeds, Scandinavians, Europeans, and Africans: the natural and civil history of those nations has begun to be elucidated: and the physiology and medical history of the human species has been greatly enlarged, and its unity demonstrated. More than eighty new species of quadrupeds have been detected within our possessions; nearly as many new species of birds; about the same number of reptiles: nearly one hundred and sixty new species of fishes from our seas, lakes, and rivers; about five hundred new species of insects; fifty of crustaceous, one hundred and eighty of living or fossil shells and molluscha, besides

many new species of worms, polyps, &c.: but some of them have not yet been described, and no general enumeration of our animals has been attempted. The manners and life, faculties and history of many species have been ably illustrated, particularly among the birds, quadrupeds, and fishes. General zoology and zootomy have begun to be taught in the universities; but, with the exception of medicine, the others auxiliary branches of zoology, have not yet attracted our attention; and entomology, polypology, and zocchony, as well as exotic zoology, have been scarcely noticed, or are much neglected: merely one half of our animals have been described as yet.

Such have been our labours within the short period of seventeen years: from this outline, what has been done may be seen, and how much remains to be done may be conceived.

C. S. R.

(*The second part will appear in a future number.*)

For the American Monthly Magazine.

TO ASTRONOMERS AND NAVIGATORS.

Considering the great care used in calculating the Nautical Almanack, I had been accustomed to rely upon it with almost implicit confidence; but having for several years past, made use of Blunt's American edition of that work, I have noticed several errors in it. These are not all chargeable to Mr. Blunt; for some of them are in the English edition. I have never seen a London copy for the year 1814, and it is probable that few of them were brought here, as war existed at that time between the United States and Great Britain. I cannot therefore state whether the errors in the Almanack for 1814 were made by Mr. Blunt, or are to be found in the English edition; and as to this particular, for the years 1816 and 1817, I am obliged to rely chiefly on memory, as I have not the London copies at hand; but I am sure with regard to those of the Almanack of 1818.

In the Almanack of 1814.

Blunt's Edition.

Page 16. In the left hand column, at the bottom, the number 12 stands where there should be 21. *Page 37.* Venus is put down twice stationary on the 3d and 15th days of the months, which is not possible. It should be Mercury stationary on the 15th.

From March to August, including them both, in all the months, on the third

pages of the months, the *emersions* of Jupiter's first and second satellites, at the head of the columns, containing their eclipses, are stated to be *immersions*. That these are errors is manifest from an observation on page 153 of the same Almanack. "Before the oppositions, (of Jupiter,) the immersions only of the first satellite are visible; and after the opposition, the emersions only. The same is generally the case with respect to the second satellite." Now Jupiter passed his opposition, in 1814, on the 23d astronomical day of February, and did not reach his conjunction with the sun till the 15th of September. In the intermediate time, therefore, the *immersions* of his first and second satellites were not visible.

For 1816.

In Blunt's Edition.

On the second page preceding the first page of January, five Chronological Cycles, twelve Ember Days, and twelve Moveable Feasts are wrong; answering to 1812, instead of 1816.

In the London Edition.

Page 66. June 19th, at noon, the moon's declination is put down, $0^{\circ} 16' N.$ It should be $2^{\circ} 16' N.$

Page 136. In the left hand column, at the bottom, 21 is put where there should be 31; and there is nothing where there should be 21. The geocentric latitude of the Georgian is also omitted on the 21st day.

For 1817.

In Blunt's Edition.

Page 109. On the 23d day of October, the sun is said to enter α , Virgo; which is impossible. It should be α , Scorpio.

In the London Edition.

Page 43. April 15th, at midnight, the moon's parallax is put down fifty seconds too small.

For 1818.

In the London Edition.

On the second page preceding the first page of January, at the bottom, the mean obliquity of the ecliptic, as determined with extreme precision with the new mural circle, is stated to be $23^{\circ} 27' 50''$. It should be $23^{\circ} 27' 50''$.

Page 4. On the 13th day of January, Venus is stated to pass the meridian at 20 hours. It should be 23 hours.

Page 73. In the column headed "Other Phenomena," against the 29th day, it is put down thus $\odot \oslash$; that is according to the language adopted in the Nautical Almanack, *Venus and Conjunction in conjunction*. It should be $\odot \delta$; or Venus \oslash Mars in conjunction.

Page 73. July 22d, at noon, the moon's declination is put down $3^{\circ} 52' S.$ It ought to be $2^{\circ} 52' S.$

Page 88. The geocentric longitude of Mercury on the 31st day of August is stated to be $4 S. 4^{\circ} 20'$. It should be $6 S. 4^{\circ} 20'$.

Page 90. The moon's declination on the 24th day of August is stated to be $24^{\circ} 5'$. It should be $24^{\circ} 55'$.

These errors are offered to astronomers and navigators, without comment. I would only observe, that Mr. Blunt "pledges his reputation it (the Nautical Almanack) shall not in one instance deviate from the English Edition;" and offers a reward of "ten dollars" for the discovery of an error. He has been written to several times on the subject; but his answers were evasive and unsatisfactory.

EDWARD HITCHCOCK.

Deerfield, (Mass.) Oct. 29, 1817.

TO THE EDITORS OF THE AMERICAN MONTHLY MAGAZINE.

I notice a small error in Dr. Akerly's valuable communication on the Locust tree. He says it "is a native of the United States, but was not "known north or east of the Potomac before the white settlers brought it from thence."

About 30 miles southeast from Catawissy in Pennsylvania, on the road to Philadelphia, there is a ridge called "the Locust Mountain," on which this tree appears to be indigenous. The south part of that elevated tract is encumbered by the *Pudding Stone*, which is very loosely cemented, and to its disintegration ought to be referred the origin of the soil. But nearly all the declivity on the northwest side presents new scenery. A reddish loam, moderately fertile, rests on rocks of Mica-slate, if my recollection is distinct, and from the scrubby oak and pine of the opposite side, we pass into a forest of Locust and Chesnut, which, though not stately, extends to the east and west as far as the eye can distinguish such objects. This vegetable assumes every appearance of having been one of the original possessors of the soil. The fewness of the inhabitants in the valley below and their characteristic lack of energy preclude the idea of its being a naturalized stranger, neither have I ever seen it at any of their farms.

Southwest of this place, near the Susquehanna, the frequency of this tree in the fields left no doubt in my mind of its being a native. Near the Schuylkill it is cultivated on land which I should judge equally favourable for its growth, but it

not scattered over the farms as on the Susquehanna. The inference from this fact is, that the roots of those trees, which once constituted a part of the ancient forest, have remained unsubdued. Indeed I recollect no instance of young plants shooting up in old cleared land without the fostering hand of the nursery man.

Further, it appears in situations on the hills north of Pittsburgh, which leaves no doubt of its being indigenous; and sixty miles west of that city, in the State of Ohio, whenever the forest is reduced, and the soil burnt, it springs up in abundance. It will be observed that this is considerably north of the Potomac.

It will, doubtless, be a satisfaction to Dr. Akerly to be apprized of these facts, which, though varying from the information he had procured, by no means derogate from his general accuracy.

Respectfully, &c.

DAVID THOMAS.

Scipio, 9 mo. 25, 1817.

An account of the cause and symptoms of the disease of neat-cattle, called the foot-rot or canker, with the best mode of treatment, by JAMES CLEMENT, Veterinary Surgeon, New-York.

The prevalence of a disease attacking the feet of neat-cattle, at this season, and particularly in the vicinity of New-York, induces me, for the benefit of agriculturists, breeders, milkmen, &c. to give a few outlines of the disease, with the best mode of treatment, it being a disease little known or understood in this part of the country.

In demonstrating this subject, I laid before the Lyceum of Natural History, preparations of the foot, so as to convey a more perfect idea of the nature and extent of the malady in question, with the various names under which it has been treated. It has been called the *Lowe*, the *Foul*, and the *Foot-rot*, but would be better denominated *Canker*. The symptoms in the early stage are extensive swelling of the leg, affecting the action of the animal; great heat and tension; starting of the hair, with a dead appearance; loss of appetite; wasting of the flesh; and in a cow, giving very little milk, so as to affect the profit of the owner, and cause inquiry into her condition. On examining between the cleft of the diseased foot, will be discovered a thin ichorous, foetid discharge, exuding from the superficial blood vessels of the skin; which, from the great vascularity of these parts, heightens the violence of the in-

flammatory action, and eventually, if not stopped in its progress, extends itself to the sensitive sole, seating itself in the heel, and producing an extensive ulcer, so much so as to cause a detachment of the horny box from the living parts; which, when effected, is the second stage of the disease. In this second stage, the disease is seated immediately on the heel, inflaming the vascular sole, from which ensues an extensive ulceration, producing a separation of the horn from the sensitive parts. The suppurative process is accompanied with the sprouting of a luxuriant, peculiar fungus, which is with difficulty kept down, even by the skilful, and entirely baffles the well-meant endeavours of those not acquainted with the disease.

In regard to the treatment, the practice which I would recommend, is to have the cattle removed to a dry healthy pasture, there to be examined. Such as are found to be diseased should be taken to a barn or out-house, and the feet washed clean, particularly between the cleft, with a hard brush and strong suds. In cases of early standing, as before described, let the diseased feet be immersed in strong lye, as warm as the hand can bear, from five to ten minutes, using brisk friction in the cleft: let a poultice, made of bran, or shorts, with hogs-lard, be ready, sufficiently large to envelope the whole foot, which should be changed twice a day till the active inflammation subsides; dress with mild astringents, adding liberal pressure between the phalanges, or divisions of the foot, with lint, or fine tow, so as to prevent their coming into contact. The feet should be wrapped in canvass, and the animal kept on a dry floor. Attention should be paid to the general habits of body: should the inflammation extend up the legs, bleed, and give aperient medicine; when extreme pain exists, anodynes, administered with discretion, will prove beneficial.

In the second stage a different mode of treatment will be necessary. The animal being secured, proceed to remove the horn that surrounds the cankered parts, and follow up with a knife so as thoroughly to separate the offending parts which surround the opening where the fungus arises. Should hæmorrhage take place, as it frequently does, it is easily checked by touching the part with the *muriate of antimony*, sometimes called, among farmers, the *butter of antimony*. Should the fungus rise higher than the surrounding surface, use the knife, so as to bring it on a level; dress with escha-

rotics, adding considerable pressure. The best covering in this case is a compress of oakum, securing the whole with canvass. Cleanliness and an entire exclusion of moisture are indispensably necessary. The feet should be dressed once a day, and in bad cases, twice. When the animal is sufficiently recovered to be turned out, the bottoms of the feet should be coated with tar.

The opinion, that this disease arises from fulness of habit, is without foundation. It attacks fat cattle and lean alike, and is not confined to the fore-feet or the hind-feet. It has been considered epidemic, having made its appearance for successive years; this is an erroneous opinion. Cattle in upland, where the soil is dry, are never known to be effected with it; it is those fed on swampy or springy ground are liable to it. The cause of the disease being thus pointed out, remove the cattle to dry pasture and its ravages will cease.

TO THE EDITORS OF THE AMERICAN
MONTHLY MAGAZINE.

Gentlemen,

If the following remarks, (produced by the perusal of Mr. Wood's observations respecting the swallow,) in your 4th No. Vol. 1. p. 292, from a lady in Chambersburgh, Penn. to her correspondent in this city, should appear useful in helping naturalists to describe the habits of this species of the feathered tribe, they are at your service. K.

"Many years ago, while setting in my father's garden at Loudon forge, we noticed the chimney-swallows collecting in great numbers in the air, and sweeping in a circuit large and wide, past an old hollow locust tree, whose top had been blown off. This excited our curiosity, and induced us to watch their motions, when we observed them pouring in parcels (funnel shaped) into the tree, and those that missed getting in, flew off in the air, renewing their circuitous route, and gathering as before, lodged themselves in the same manner until there was not one to be seen, before the twilight closed. This was continued year after year, and was an object of great curiosity, which often amused both ourselves and our visitors, until by the burning of some brush-wood, in an adjoining meadow, the tree caught fire and was consumed. Their roosting place afterwards was in a hollow sycamore, on a small island below the house; though we had the pleasure to know they

were near neighbours, yet the curiosity was in a great measure destroyed, as the tree, where they deposited themselves, was at some distance, and our view of it intercepted by other trees.

"In Chambersburgh I have observed the same habits in these birds. They would collect in the evening about sundown, and pour themselves into my neighbour's chimney. I have often sat in my piazza and viewed them with pleasure, until my neighbour was apprized of the fact and closed the chimney. This you may have an opportunity of viewing any summer yourself.

"The reason for finding dead birds and bones, is obviously from such numbers depositing themselves in the trunk of a tree, where the weak must be pressed, and where want of air produces suffocation. In chimnies the air being communicated both from top and bottom hinders suffocation."

S. B. D.

Messrs. Editors,

The following hints on the methods of determining the latitude and longitude of places on the land, are respectfully submitted for publication in the American Monthly Magazine.

It will readily be admitted by all who are in any degree acquainted with geography and astronomy, that it is of the utmost importance to the geographer to have the latitude and longitude of several extreme and intermediate points of a country correctly ascertained, in order to construct a map of the same with precision. And although much has been done in the science of geography by the aid of astronomical observations, it is well known that the great degree of imperfection which still remains, is more to be attributed to a deficiency of these observations, than to any other cause. Hence we may perceive that it would be a meritorious act in the government of every country, to employ persons of competent skill, and furnish them, at the public expense, with suitable instruments for making correct determinations of the latitude and longitude of every important place therein. These combined with accurate surveys of the boundaries, would give to this science a degree of perfection hitherto unknown.

The most useful instruments for these purposes are an astronomical quadrant, a circular instrument of reflection, a por-

table transit instrument, a telescope of sufficient magnifying power for observing the immersion and emersion of Jupiter's satellites, and a time-keeper. The quadrant might be of two feet radius; the circular instrument of fifteen inches diameter, a refracting telescope of Dollond's or Tully's construction, about four feet in length, of focal distance, with a triple object glass of three and three-fourth inches aperture, would answer very well for the travelling astronomer. His transit instrument might be of moderate dimensions, and a watch of the best kind might serve for his time-keeper. But since these alone would form an expensive apparatus, which presupposes in its use, an accomplished practitioner, acting under liberal patronage, it seems improper to undertake a description of the instruments, or to give directions for using them. A full description of these may be found in Vince's and La Lande's astronomy, and the article Astronomy in the New Edinburgh Encyclopedia. We shall only suppose, that a person of ingenuity, and some previous knowledge of the theory, should become desirous of exercising his talents in this way, and being sufficiently independent in his circumstances to expend a sum of eight hundred dollars in the purchase of instruments, and employ several months in the year in finding the latitude and longitude of a considerable number of places through which he should travel for that purpose. With the above sum he might purchase a patent lever or horizontal watch, a sextant of the best construction, contained in a square mahogany box, which should also contain an artificial horizon, and a case of quicksilver to be used in the same. To these he might add a telescope, of the dimensions already given. The Nautical and Astronomical Ephemeris of the English Board of longitude, Bowditch's Navigator, and Mackay on the longitude, contain a sufficiency of instructions and astronomical tables for his purpose. He should also have with him the best map of the country or territory in which his observations are made that can be procured, and a case of mathematical instruments. The map would enable him to find more nearly an estimated latitude and longitude of those places, whose positions would otherwise be too uncertain to be made the basis of his calculations.

Our intended practitioner, after being instructed in the use of his instruments, and their adjustments, must, in every

observation for obtaining the longitude, find the error of his watch for apparent time, and its gain or loss of time in 24 hours. The most effectual method of doing this will be, by taking the mean of 5 or 6 altitudes of the sun in the morning, and afternoon of the same day when the sun bears nearly east or west. Or, if the sun cannot be observed in that position, the lowest altitudes that can be taken. The apparent time is used in all astronomical problems except that of determining the longitude by the eclipses of Jupiter's moons. Because the time of their immersions and emersions at Greenwich are given in the tables for mean time, the error of the watch must be found for the same at the meridian of the observer. This method of determining the longitude of a place is one of the most simple, though not the most accurate; but will generally approach so near the truth as to be very useful in geography. In attempting this, the greatest power the telescope will bear, consistent with distinct vision, should be employed. The observer, according to the directions given in the Ephemeris, should be ready with his telescope at a suitable time before the ingress or egress of the satellite into, or out of Jupiter's shadow, takes place. And at the instant it happens, must give notice to his assistant, holding the watch, to note the time shown thereby. Then, making an allowance for its error, the difference of time between his observation and that of the Ephemeris will be the longitude of his meridian, expressed in time.

The simple telescope may also be used, instead of the transit instrument, for determining the longitude, by observing the time at which the moon's eastern or western limb passes the meridian. The manner of doing this, and also of observing when an eclipse of the sun or moon commences or terminates, are fully explained in Mackay's treatise on finding the longitude by sea and land. An eclipse of the sun affords the best means for a correct determination. That of the moon is attended with some uncertainty; but should always be observed with care whenever an opportunity occurs.

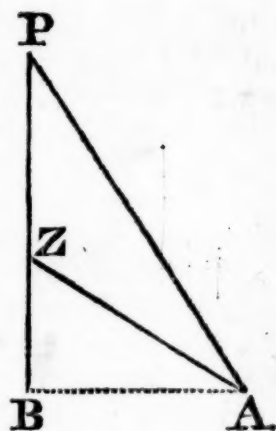
The lunar method, which consists in observing the angular distance between the moon and the sun, or a star, measured by the sextant, and noting the apparent time of observation, enables the observer to find the true distance, the true time at Greenwich corresponding thereto, and consequently, the difference

of time between the two meridians. This method, if practised with due skill and care, will be attended with success. But the distances taken will be more successful when not exceeding 100° . And the mean of several results are always preferable to that of a single observation.

Having nothing more in view than to show what may be accomplished by private individuals who may have leisure and inclination to give their services to the public in this manner, I proceed to give some hints on the methods of determining the latitude. This is done, both by sea and land, by taking altitudes of the heavenly bodies, chiefly of the sun. And the meridian altitude is always preferred, because it requires little calculation, and is generally thought to be more accurate. When taking altitudes on the land with a sextant, the artificial horizon becomes necessary. And since the image of the sun, reflected from the quicksilver, is depressed as far below the true horizon as the real sun is above it, the index of the sextant must be moved twice as far, to bring the two reflected images together, and thereby obtain the altitude, as when it is obtained by using the horizon of the sea. For this reason it will be expedient to take the meridian altitude at such times of the year as it does not exceed 50° . The angular distance of the images should not be more than 100° , because a greater angle, as I have found by experience, will be incorrect; and the error appears to be occasioned by the oblique reflection from the mirror of the moveable index. In my late attempts to find the latitude of this city, out of one hundred altitudes taken between the 20th of August and 20th of September, 1817, not more than twenty of them succeeded.

When the meridian altitude has been too great to be observed by the sextant, the following method has been tried, and produced a satisfactory result. Several altitudes were taken in the morning, and the apparent time deduced from each separately. If three, four, or five of these in succession, agreed within one or two seconds of time, the mean of the altitudes was then taken, and the time again calculated therefrom. Then reducing the sun's declination to the apparent time thus found, the resolution of two spherical triangles produced the complement of the latitude. This is recommended in Wallace on the Globes and Practical Astronomy, page 165.

In the annexed diagram, let A represent the sun's place at the mean altitude; B, the point of intersection of a perpendicular from the sun's place to the meridian; P, the pole, and Z, the zenith; PA, will represent the complement of the declination; AZ, the complement of the altitude; and the angle, APZ, the time from noon.



The latitude was thus attempted to be found at No. 331 Broadway, from 6 altitudes taken, Aug. 26, 1817. The horary angle, or time, from noon, was 3 h. 43 m. 46. 2 sec.; or, $APZ = 55^\circ 56' 33'' 4$; the complement of the declination, or $AP = 79^\circ 32' 23'' 8$; the complement of the altitude, or $AZ = 57^\circ 35' 56'' 5$. Then by trigonometry, Radius : Co-sine of $APZ :: \text{Tangent } AP : \text{Tangent } BP = 71^\circ 45' 16'' 6$. Co-sine $AP : \text{Co-sine } BP :: \text{Co-sine } AZ : \text{Co-sine } BZ = 22^\circ 28' 16'' 6$. $BP - BZ = PZ 49^\circ 17'$, the complement of the latitude. Hence $90^\circ - 49^\circ 17' = 40^\circ 43'$, the latitude North.

In another trial with four altitudes, taken, Sept. 27, 1817, the horary angle was $36^\circ 5' 15''$; the complement of the altitude, $53^\circ 34' 39''$; the complement of the declination, $91^\circ 37' 39''$; and the latitude resulting, was $40^\circ 42' 59'' 9$. These results, differing only one-tenth of a second, were extremely satisfactory. Because the time deduced from the altitudes was believed to be true to the nearest second, and consequently the altitudes must have been correctly taken. But the mean of a great number of results by the other method was $40^\circ 42' 56''$; it was therefore thought best to take the mean of these, and thus the latitude of my plan was settled at $40^\circ 42' 53''$ N.

Great confidence is placed in this last result. It has been effected by much labour and rigid calculation. But the difficulty of arriving within two or three seconds of the truth is considerable. If the latitude of internal places in general, can be obtained within one minute, or geographical mile, it will be sufficiently correct for constructing maps of large territories. But when fixing the position of important places, the greatest accuracy is desirable. For my own part, I am satisfied that the latitude of the City-Hall, should be recorded at $40^\circ 42' 45''$ N.

and the longitude, $74^{\circ} 0' 25''$ W. of the Royal Observatory at Greenwich.

As it appears to have been unknown to the citizens in general, that the latitude of several places in the city has been well determined heretofore, the following information may be acceptable. In the year 1769, our illustrious astronomer, David Rittenhouse, took the latitude of Fort George, $40^{\circ} 42' 3''$ N.; a Spanish astronomer, of great skill, from eight to ten years ago, did the same at 182 Fulton, then Partition-street, $40^{\circ} 42' 40''$; our Professor of Mathematics, &c. Columbia College, $40^{\circ} 42' 44''$; a respectable shipmaster, Mr. Bowers, of a house in Water-street, $40^{\circ} 42' 26''$. By including my own, and applying the difference between the City-Hall and these places, we have its latitude by five different observers, viz.

Mr. Rittenhouse, at Fort	
George, add $32''$ lat. City-	
Hall, is	$40^{\circ} 42' 40''$
Don Jos. T. de Ferrer, 182	
Fulton-street, add $4''$. . .	$40^{\circ} 42' 44''$
Mr. Adrain, Columbia Col-	
lege, sub. $3''$	$40^{\circ} 42' 41''$
Mr. Bower's, Water-street,	
(Mrs. Spence's) add $17''$. .	$40^{\circ} 42' 43''$
M. Nash, No. 331 Broadway,	
subtract $13''$	$40^{\circ} 42' 45''$ N.

Hoping that the foregoing remarks and observations may be acceptable to the public, and in some degree interesting to the friends of science, I remain, Gentlemen,

Your most obedient servant,

M. NASH.

New-York, Oct. 27, 1817.

THANKSGIVING.

Messrs. Editors,

As the Executive of this State has lately adopted an institution long prevalent in New-England, that of setting apart one day in each year, after the in-gathering of the products of the earth, as a day of thanksgiving to the Dispenser of every good, for his continued bounty; it may not be uninteresting nor uninteresting to your readers to learn in what manner this festival is celebrated in that part of our country where it was first established. No sooner is the day fixed by proclamation, in one of the New-England States, than arrangements of some sort are concerted for its observance throughout the community. It is regarded not only as a religious but as a social anniversary; and all the branches of every family calculate to assemble on Thanksgiving-day, under

their paternal roof, to give scope to their filial and fraternal affections, and to cherish those ties which are equally sanctioned by humanity and revelation. Under such auspices much generous and rational hilarity may well be supposed to mingle with grateful devotion. It is indeed rendered a holyday in its most common acceptation, a day of gayety and feasting. And as a fitting offering at such a season, alms are liberally distributed to the poor, that they may enjoy a consonant spirit of cheerfulness, and indulge in the prescriptive festivities of the day. Collections are made in all the churches for the poor; and even the entertainments, which usually crown this day of rejoicing, are made to contribute to the purposes of charity. A ball is given in almost every village, and the tickets are put at a price which commonly leaves a surplus to be bestowed upon the necessitous. And here I cannot but express my regret that the managers of our Theatre should have mistaken Thanksgiving for a *Fast*!—as possibly, had they understood its nature, they would have entered so far into the liberal spirit in which this institution originated, as to have given some moral, or at least innocent exhibition on that evening, and appropriated the receipts of the house to benevolent uses: I regret, I say, that they should have lost such an opportunity of being, in some measure, the almoners of that bounty in which they so largely share, from a mistaken apprehension of violating the sanctity of a day on which it is the office of religion to banish sorrow, and which only requires temperance and decency in the ebullition of that mirth which is the best indication of a grateful heart. Nothing can be further removed from humiliation and fasting than a primitive Thanksgiving.

In New-England divine service is performed in the churches in the morning, and in the morning only. At dinner all the scattered members of each family, with all their offspring, meet at the hospitable board of its head. On this day that board is spread with unwonted profusion. Every delicacy, proportionate to the means of the entertainer, is here to be seen, and at every, the meanest table throughout the country, a roasted turkey, a smoking plum-pudding and *pumpkin-pies* regale all the senses at once. The affluent minister to the wants of their needy neighbours; and in the very prisons and poorhouses, on this day, peace and plenty reign. After an ample repast, and becoming libations, the male members of the family, old men and boys, repair to

the fields, and divert themselves till sunset at foot-ball, cricket, and similar sports. The evening is spent in dancing, playing at blindman's-buff, hunt-the-slipper, or some game of forfeits.

Such is the manner in which Thanksgiving-day is kept by 'the descendants of the pilgrims;' and by keeping it in this way it becomes an efficacious means of invigorating those home-bred virtues, of which a people should be proud.

THEOPHILUS.

We agree, generally, with our correspondent, that a day of Thanksgiving ought not to be made a day of mortification. As to his suggestion in regard to the Theatre, we doubt not that the mana-

gers will readily take the hint, and devote the profits of the house on Christmas to some such purpose as he proposes. We would recommend to them, the Society for the promotion of Industry as most deserving of encouragement among our eleemosynary associations.

It is a constant practice in Boston, and if we remember aright, in Philadelphia and Baltimore, for the managers of the Theatre to bestow one or more benefits every season upon some public charity. Such praise-worthy conduct has a strong tendency to conciliate the good-will of the more respectable part of society towards dramatic entertainments. There are few who will not tolerate a doubtful evil for the sake of a positive good.

ART. 2. *Placide; a Spanish Tale.* Translated from *Les Battuécas of Madame de Genlis*, by Alexander Jamieson. 12mo. 143 pp. Kirk & Mercein. New-York, 1817.

MADAME de Genlis has seldom been equalled either in the amount and variety, or the vivacity and pathos of her writings. More than sixty octavo volumes already attest her genius and industry, and though now at a very advanced age, she continues to dispense the accumulated treasures of her mind, and exercise her pen, for the instruction and delight of mankind. Her fellow-creatures still retain a claim upon her services, and a place in her sympathies; and to rectify the principles which govern society and give elevation to the objects of life, still constitutes the important end of her labours. Mistress of an eloquence almost as impassioned and magical as that of Rousseau, her principles are pure, and her philosophy practical. If search were made among the wise women of Great Britain for a parallel to this illustrious ornament of French literature, Miss Edgeworth would be found to resemble her most, if not in the prominent features of her mind and her peculiar modes of feeling, at least in the general character of her studies, her general theory of life, and the leading purpose of her writings. Madame de Genlis has more of romance in her character—more enthusiasm in her feelings, and a more poetical fancy, than Miss Edgeworth; but these differences appear to be more accidental than original and inherent—such as would be produced in the same mind according as it should be born on one or the other side of the channel—whether educated under the influence of an ancient and

gorgeous religion, and the most splendid of the feudal monarchies, but passing, in its maturity, through a period of such convulsions, as to overturn the most venerable monuments of church and state,—or under the influence of a religion comparatively simple; a government limited, and from which the feudal traits have principally disappeared, and during times of general tranquillity. Both, however, are distinguished by a fine spirit of observation—a peculiarly happy talent of drawing just and striking inference from examples, whether recorded or contemporaneous. These endowments, aided in both by a high degree of literary culture, and the most advantageous intercourse with society, have enabled them to engage attention and sympathy, by means of the interest always attached to pictures of actual life and manners; and under the guidance of an enlightened and kind-hearted philosophy, they have both taught lessons of universal and permanent utility. Early in life, Madame de Genlis was engaged in the task of educating the children of the Duke of Orleans, and her studies being necessarily conformed to the nature of her employment, the whole strength of her fine intellect—all her literary acquisitions, and all the results of her experience, were united to give value to her instruction; the bright light of her genius was all reflected upon the subject of education. She has laboured for the benefit of society by addressing herself to both sexes, to the young and the old, and has adapted her lessons to the higher classes of

society, on which the welfare of the whole, at least in a monarchical government, mainly depends. She has written many fictions, but not in the common way. Most novelists write merely to amuse, and endeavour only to copy, in glowing colours, indeed, and with hyperbolical proportions, the general course of life, leaving their pictures too deficient in precision of purpose to convey instruction, or operate upon conduct. But Madame de Genlis has constructed her fictions with the especial design of teaching some definite and important doctrine, either of private, or social and political morality. This has given to her writings a value far beyond the ordinary standard of fictitious productions, and elevated the writer to the rank of a moral teacher of the most interesting and influential kind. We will close these preliminary remarks with an extract from Mr. Walsh's very interesting letters on France and England, as published in the *American Review* of 1811. While in Paris, Mr. Walsh visited Madame de Genlis, and in the course of his account of her situation and character, he thus expresses himself. "The conversation of this lady impressed me with a high idea of her powers, and corresponded to the celebrity of her name. She appeared to me rather solemn and didactic than otherwise, and displayed much less fancy and vivacity in discourse than I was led to expect from the rich imagery, and the glowing pictures, with which her works abound. But I was still delighted with the depth and beauty of her observations on human nature; and with the rational and philosophical strain of her ideas. I could discover, at every moment, proofs of the most acute discernment; of a memory uncommonly tenacious, and of a very singular faculty of description. The chief merit of her writings may, indeed, be said to consist, not so much in the flights of a vigorous imagination, as in the expression of strong feeling, and in the skill with which she discovers and exhibits the various shades, and the ridiculous points of the human character. She paints the depravity and follies of the world with a force and fidelity which lead you to suppose that she must have had for a long time some horrible models before her eyes, and retained many bitter recollections of them in her heart."

The last part of the foregoing extract is fully exemplified by *Placide*, the book before us. The design of this work the writer has herself explained in her pre-

face. "My object," says Madame de Genlis, "was not to satirize civilization; on the contrary, my design has been to prove that heroic virtue, which is nothing but the happy exercise of a strong mind, is never to be met with where there is nothing to combat, and is never to be found but in the midst of every species of seductions, which unite to overcome and annihilate it; and, consequently, must be sought for in a state of civilization."

The doctrine which Madame De Genlis has in this passage declared it her intention to enforce, is not more beautiful and elevating in theory, than it is literally true and practically important. It corresponds exactly with the metaphysical nature of man; and the conviction of its truth is precisely the conviction adapted to dispose men to the most strenuous exercise of their faculties, and the most faithful discharge of their relative duties. The consequences of such doctrines are, furthermore, favourable to the improvement of the human race, not only as they are calculated to win men from barbarism and lead them to unite in various political combinations, but also, as they are opposed to all those arbitrary principles of government which tend to exclude any portion of community from the benefits of the social compact, as well as to the monastic institutions and predominating power of the old ecclesiastical establishment of Europe. Having redeemed men from the unconnected and sterile condition of savage life, they do not suffer them to remain stationary. Harmonizing with the versatile and progressive nature of the human mind, they accompany and accelerate the developement of its faculties, and remove the obstacles which would impede the advancement of civil society towards that ultimate perfection, which though it may not be absolutely attainable, is not, for that reason, the less to be sought after. But though the principles, and the general strain of reasoning and sentiment, in the work before us, be undoubtedly opposed to a state of indian vagrancy and unproductiveness, yet it was the specific design of the writer to support the cause of civilized, cultivated, refined, society, in opposition to a barbarism of a milder and more attractive character than that commonly understood by the term *savage state*; one which, though it give no scope to the high faculties of the mind, or the grand and ennobling qualities of the heart, is, nevertheless, compatible with the exercise of many gentle domestic affections, and which owes its charm,

in the eyes of a superficial or misanthropic observer, to its simplicity and innocence. Such a state of barbarism is, equally with the savage state, one of ignorance and inutility, but is more tranquil and equable; and resembles a barren, but sunny hill-side, decked with a scattered and stunted vegetation, producing a few blossoms which the mildness of the climate, not the bounty of the earth, has suffered to expand, compared with some bleak and weather-beaten declivity of northern aspect, that lifts at intervals its dwarfish but sturdy growth, in despite of the inclement sky and the penurious soil.

But still, though Madame de Genlis is a zealous advocate for that condition of society in which all the faculties of man may find opportunity for exercise, and which gradually extends its limits as these faculties improve, as one best suited to the dignity of the species, and the exaltation and enjoyment of the individual, she does not shut her eyes to the evils of civilization, nor by any means maintain that the present social system of Europe is modelled upon unexceptionable principles. On the contrary, she takes occasion throughout the whole work to expose whatever is unjust, pernicious, absurd, or ridiculous in that system, and to contrast its defects of principle, sentiment, and conduct, with the principles, sentiments, and conduct, which unprejudiced reason and unperturbed feeling would naturally and *logically* lead men to adopt and pursue.

The story which the writer has constructed for the purpose of illustrating her opinions is short and simple, but filled with a happy selection of incidents described in perspicuous, eloquent language. The scene is laid in France and Spain, chiefly in the latter country; the period chosen commences with the sanguinary reign of Robespierre, commonly denominated the "reign of terror," and is continued down to the invasion of Spain by the troops of Napoleon Bonaparte. The narrative opens with the flight from Paris of a French nobleman, the Marquis of Palmene, and his son Adolphus, who had rendered themselves obnoxious to the Directory by the integrity of their sentiments, and the independence of their conduct. Six weeks prior to this event the Countess Auberive and her daughter Calista, to whom, on the very day of her departure, Adolphus was to have been married, had been compelled to save their lives by escaping into Spain, and it was there that the parties expected again to meet. The Marquis and his son, how-

ever, upon reaching Madrid, could gain no tidings of the Countess and Calista. After remaining eighteen months in Spain, the Marquis received a letter from the Baron d' Olmar, a French nobleman who had accompanied the flight of the Countess and Calista, and was a particular friend of the Marquis. "The Baron wrote that he had conducted the Countess Auberive and her daughter as far as Bayonne, under fictitious names, but had been there separated from them by a very strange event. The day after his arrival at Bayonne he received a note from Calista, which informed him that her mother had changed her design; that she would not go into Spain, and that she had found another asylum, which, from prudential motives, she must, for the present, keep secret. The note ended with protestations of gratitude, and a promise of yet informing the Baron of their place of refuge. This note the Baron enclosed in his letter, and Adolphus knew the hand-writing. At the conclusion of his letter, the Baron added that he himself had been arrested that same day, and detained a long time in prison." After passing three months longer in anxious but vain endeavours to learn the fate of Calista, the Marquis received another letter mysteriously conveyed to him, which enclosed one for Adolphus, and which he perceived by the hand-writing of the superscription to be from Calista. This letter informed Adolphus that he would never be able to see her more, and that any attempt to discover her retreat would be utterly fruitless; she spoke of the unchangeable peace of her asylum, and promised to send him a letter every six months. Adolphus was unable to solve the mysterious conduct of Calista, except by supposing that she had taken the veil, and was a nun in some convent in Portugal, or Germany, or Italy. After a residence in Spain of six years, the Marquis began to think of returning home, and arranged his affairs so as to return to his native land the following year. Adolphus had now attained his twenty-fifth year. "He was sensible, noble minded, and generous, and had tried to forget his unfortunate passion by application to study." Before they left Spain, however, the Marquis and his son resolved on completing their travels through the country which had so hospitably received and sheltered them in their exile; and, in the year eighteen hundred set out to visit those provinces with which they were yet unacquainted. On their tour they stopped at Salamanca. The host at the

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inn where they lodged in this city was an intelligent, shrewd man, and in his conversation he made frequent mention of a small community, in the heart of Spain, called the Battuécas. The account of this community is very interesting, and is substantially confirmed by history—Madame de Genlis assures us it is strictly true. "There exists in Spain," says she, "about fourteen leagues from Salamanca, in the diocese of Coria, in the kingdom of Leon, and about eight leagues from Ciudad-Rodrigo, a fertile valley, enclosed on all sides by a chain of enormous rocks, forming round it a rampart, which, during centuries had rendered this retreat inaccessible. This canton is called the vale of the Battuécas. It extends itself almost a league; and during entire ages the entrance to it was truly inaccessible. The frightful and wonderful relations respecting this mysterious valley had increased without bounds as time rolled on. The shepherds of the surrounding country, and travellers who had lost their way, had seen clouds of smoke, flames, and apparitions of extraordinary figures; formidable voices had been heard to pronounce unknown words, and no doubt was entertained that this dreadful place was the abode of cruel monsters and evil-minded magicians." Indeed such terror was inspired in the neighbouring peasantry that no one ever dared attempt to explore the valley, and every spring the rectors of the country would assemble, form a solemn procession, and with songs and superstitious ceremonies, exorcise the place, where the "prince of the power of the air," with every denomination of evil genii seemed to hold his court. But the spot, which ignorance and fear had invested with so many terrors, was, in reality, one of the greenest and most fertile vallies in all Spain. It was inhabited by a simple people, tranquil as their valley, and innocent as the flocks which they tended. Accident made known the actual character of the place and its inhabitants. "The Duke d'Albe, in the sixteenth century, having lost himself one day in its vicinity, with a small retinue, penetrated into the valley without knowing where he was. He admired the fertility of the place, whose approach had in it something solemn and grand. He found a pretty good number of cottages, covered with the foliage of trees, and a people mild and timid, who spoke an unknown language, and in whom his aspect seemed to inspire fear rather than curiosity. Light draperies of white skin formed

their vestments. The girls were crowned with flowers, and the boys with green leaves; their young mothers wore in their hair garlands composed of ears of barley, symbolical of a happy fruitfulness." This adventure of the Duke d'Albe aided the investigation of the history of the Battuécas, of which the following is what, according to Madame de Genlis, is most authentic. This small people are supposed by some to be the descendants of the Goths, who fled from the tyranny of the Moors; while others suppose them to be "a remnant of the ancient Cantabrians, who had sought shelter in this retreat, where nature seemed to offer them riches sufficient for human happiness, and of that description which conquerors never yet coveted. Flocks of wild goats grazed in this enclosure, and salutary plants, and fruitful trees grew spontaneously in the valley, which was watered by innumerable springs issuing from the rocks. According to a tradition preserved among the Battuécas, towards the year one thousand and nine, the torrent of Tormes having changed its course, blocked up the only penetrable entrance to the valley, and the inhabitants lived for ages, in the bosom of Spain, strangers to their country, and separated from the rest of the world, whose very existence became problematical to them. By degrees they forgot their maternal tongue, customs which they could no longer observe, laws which had become useless to them, worship without temples, and even without priests, and their first origin. However, they preserved among themselves, by oral traditions, some ideas of a supreme being, and sentiments and customs which real savages can never be supposed to have. At the end of two or three centuries an earthquake altered, suddenly, the direction of the torrent which enclosed their asylum. The entrance of the valley, though still difficult of access, was more free; but this great event made no impression upon the Battuécas, for satisfied with their lot, they did not seek another residence. It is only our recollections, and comparisons of the transitions from an obscure situation to a brilliant destiny, that can produce in us impetuous desires, and inflame our imagination. The Battuécas had no ambition, for they had no idea of any condition superior to their own; their possessions, though limited, were sufficient for their wants. They did not imagine it was possible to have more dainty food than their herbs and their fruit, nor a drink more delicious than their fresh water which

flowed pure from their fountains, nor habitations more agreeable than their humble cottages. They lived in happy union one with another, for nothing could excite in their breasts envy or emulation; strength had there no power, for they admired only equality, peace, and repose; nor had crowns ever been given to the most enterprising, the bravest, or most ingenious. They were not entirely ignorant, however, that other beings existed beyond the boundaries of their republic. They had often seen with horror, from the top of their rocks, several intruders; but fear and indolence kept them fixed in their tranquil abode." Soon after the visit of the Duke d'Albe, missionaries were sent into the valley, and the benevolent and peaceful doctrines of the gospel were embraced with gladness by the Battuécas. The missionaries became strongly attached to their new converts. They hollowed out, in the rocky rampart of the valley, a temple for worship, and erected a monastery, for their private studies and devotion. The church and the monastery still exist, and an unbroken succession of pious pastors have resided here since their foundation, performing the functions of priest, legislator, and physician. The Marquis and Adolphus were so much interested with the narrative of their host, that they resolved forthwith to visit the valley of the Battuécas, and they left Salamanca without delay. On entering the valley they were charmed with the bold and romantic character of the craggy enclosure, and the spirit of innocence and tranquillity that reigned within. They had passed from a world of turmoil and feverish excitement, to a scene of untroubled quiet, where their hearts found refreshment, and which seemed like a reminiscence of the age of gold. From among the inmates of this peaceful retreat, in whose character we may trace one spot of untarnished white, on the many-coloured robe of human nature, Madame de Genlis selects the hero of her story. His name is Placide. He is introduced to the Marquis and his son by Father Isidore, the superior of the convent, who, previous to the introduction, gives his visitors an account of the character of Placide, referring them to Placide himself for a recital of the adventures of his life, and a fuller description of the peculiar complexion of his feelings and opinions. On the character of this young Battuécas, Madame De Genlis says, in her preface, that she has bestowed the most profound attention. "He is

not," in the language of the author, "a savage without reflection or judgment; nor is he a misanthrope, who sees every thing on its dark side only. He is animated with benevolence to all mankind, and enlightened by the truths of christianity, he possesses that true cultivation of mind which gives perfection to our moral ideas. Endowed with the happiest organization, born with an ardent imagination, and a noble feeling heart, he is suddenly thrown into the great world, without knowing the secrets of our arts and sciences, and entirely ignorant of our follies, customs, and manners." There, such is the enthusiasm of his feelings, and so nice is his discernment of what is just or unjust, decorous or indecorous, magnanimous or base, he is alternately filled with the most cordial admiration, or the most vehement indignation, and is confounded at the strange union, which society exhibits, of truth and error in opinion—purity and depravity in sentiment, and rectitude and wickedness in conduct. "His censures and praises are never exaggerated, yet their energy would not be natural in a man whose habits have been familiarized from his infancy with our follies and vices; but they are strikingly just in the mouth of a Battuécas, for such must be the impressions of a rational, intelligent being, whose judgment hath never been corrupted, and who, far from being cloyed with the specious appearance of the world, must feel and enjoy its charms with avidity." This character, Placide, is plainly intended, by the inventor, to exhibit a just specimen of an uncorrupted man, of one whose reason is mature, whose active principles are in a state of healthy excitability, and whose will moves with a well-regulated energy, ready to obey with promptitude the dictates of conscience, and follow with alacrity the path of duty; in short, he is held forth as a mirror of plane surface and perfect polish, to give a faithful reflection of the forms, whether well-proportioned, or distorted, in natural and probable combination, or grotesque and enormous, which are furnished by the actual state of civilized society in Europe. Nor is this all: Placide, in his own personal history, exhibits, in a beautiful manner, how important knowledge and action are to solid and permanent enjoyment, and that there is no state more incompatible with happiness than one in which the mind finds itself cramped in the exercise of its faculties, and lies, like a stranded leviathan, wasting its strength in vain endeavours to regain its natural

element. A state of mere innocence is not enough for the great ends of our being; our intellectual as well as our moral powers must be cultivated in order to invest our nature with its true dignity, and render it worthy its immortal destiny. The pursuit of knowledge and the expansion of our faculties is, doubtless, and must be, from the imperfection of our nature, attended with many dangers to virtue, but the triumph will be therefore the more glorious; it is our destiny that every wealthy place must be sought through fire and through water, and to condemn man to a fixed condition, no matter what may be its accompaniments, so long as it is surrounded by a barrier that cannot be surmounted, is to render his creation abortive, to blight his hopes, and strike him down from that station. "a little lower than the angels," for which he was designed. The restless impatience of a mind, bound, by the strong necessity of external circumstances, to one unchangeable condition, and its earnest struggles to get free, is well described by Madame de Genlis, in the history of Placide's youth, given by Father Isidore to his visitors, and the more full disclosure of his feelings and aspirations afterward made by Placide himself. After having described the tranquillity which had always reigned in the valley, Father Isidore pursues his narrative in the following words. "There has, however, been one exception to this love of the valley, among the Battuécas. A young man, an orphan these some years, bolder and more enterprising than his companions, hath given us great uneasiness these two years past. He is called PLACIDE:—he possesses considerable genius, and born with an ardent imagination, and a most feeling heart, he has shown from his infancy a passionate admiration for the people of the other world, (for 'tis thus the Battuécas designate the Spaniards of other cantons.) 'Those ingenious people,' he would say, 'are the inventors of all arts.' Yet here nothing is known beyond that common industry which has for its object to provide the ordinary necessities of life. All the science of the best informed of the Battuécas goeth not beyond the elements of reading and writing. Our religious men, the instructors of this small colony, have strictly avoided bringing into this retreat any refined inventions. Divine worship, the ornaments of the church, a crucifix of stone, an image of the virgin, coarsely cut, two or three indifferent pictures, and the vocal music of the church service, have, notwithstand-

ing, given to the Battuécas some ideas of sculpture, painting, and even of poetry; for we also, in our church, sing hymns in the vulgar tongue. These pieces of poetry so much struck the mind of Placide, that, at the age of fifteen years, he composed some verses himself; and these juvenile productions evinced so much talent, that I could not help putting into his hand five or six volumes of sacred poetry of our best authors. Then his enthusiasm for the people of the other universe had no bounds. He has become one of the best poets of Spain, and I have had printed, unknown to him, at Madrid, a selection of his poetry, without naming the author, and which hath been very generally admired. He was then twenty-two years of age. Thus this young poet, living in obscurity, had, without being aware of it, a very great reputation. His works were in every library. He was even ignorant of his talent; notwithstanding his inventive genius made him improve himself daily in the mechanical arts which had been introduced among the Battuécas, and of which he had only seen the most simple elements. He guessed at things invented for ages. But, as for him, it was creating."

At length the patience of Placide is exhausted, his curiosity is irrepressibly excited by the taste he had enjoyed of those few specimens of the refinement of the great world, which had been brought into the valley, and he determines to go to Madrid. "One day," pursued Father Isidore, "Placide came to me, saying that he was determined to make a long journey, and go to Madrid. Pray think well of it, said I, before you throw yourself without any experience upon a new world. I will know, said he, those men better informed than the Battuécas; those inventors of writing, arithmetic, and all our arts. What can I risk among them? They are christians, more enlightened than we are, and therefore must be more virtuous."

"You are determined to believe, my dear Placide, that those men, who are more learned than we, are also better; but in this you are mistaken; for I must apprise you, that in Madrid you will find vices of which you have now not the slightest idea; I own I cannot be persuaded of that declaration; for, it seems impossible to me, that vice and science can be allied.' Yet, my son, you must know what pride and forgetfulness of God have produced even on angels.—'But with revelation and the sublime morality of the gospel, how can mortal men, whose residence on earth is so short, fall upon those

dreadful wanderings of the heart? Pride hath overcome immortal creatures, who knew God through his magnificence alone. We shudder at their ingratitude, but it is less inconceivable than would be the same culpability in fragile beings, doomed to death, and who, with the full knowledge of the goodness and the supreme power of the Deity, are also aware of his much dreaded justice. In short, I am determined, and I have been so this long time.'

All the arguments of Father Isidore to induce Placide to remain in the valley were ineffectual, and he departed in company with Don Pedro, a nephew of Father Isidore, who had come on purpose to conduct him to Madrid. Placide was twenty-three years of age when he for the first time left the sheltering precincts of his native valley. The first incident which gives him any insight into the new principles, among which he has just arrived, is one that occurs at the second post, while the carriage is waiting for a change of horses. Here he is first made acquainted with the idea of property, for in the valley every thing, all the fruits of the earth and the increase of the flocks was enjoyed in common. The incident referred to is thus related by Placide to the Marquis and Adolphus. "Don Pedro was sleeping most profoundly, and I was leaning on the door of the carriage, looking with curiosity on every thing which presented itself to mine eyes. We were at the extremity of the village, and directly opposite to a baker's shop, when a woman covered with rags, and carrying two young children in her arms, approached our vehicle, and begged alms of me, saying in a lamentable voice 'That she and her children were dying with hunger.' What! cried I, do not you see that quantity of loaves? go and take some.—'Alas! I will not be suffered.' How? said I; in the situation you are in?—Upon saying these words, I opened the carriage door, jumped out, flew towards the baker's shop, and seized a large loaf, giving it to the poor woman; at the same time saying to the baker, my good friend, you see I have not taken this loaf for myself, it is for this woman, who is poor, and complains she is hungry. 'Pay me then for it,' replied the baker; I cannot, I have no money; I tell you again, it is for this unfortunate woman. 'We have many other poor, and I cannot give to all,' said the baker. As long as you see any poor and have bread, you must give it, said I. You only sell it to the rich to enable you to supply the poor. 'In this manner,' quoth the baker, 'our trade would truly go on

well.'—Yes! said I, for God would bless it. At these words, the poor woman, fearing the resentment of the baker, wished to return the loaf, which he was going to take hold of, offering her a smaller one; but I opposed it. She shall have the one I chose for her, cried I, dragging the larger loaf out of the hands of the baker, who furious, instantly called his two men servants, and they came running to his assistance. I valiantly defended myself with the very loaf I had made a conquest of; I broke it upon the baker's shoulders, whom I threw down, and overturned at the same time one of his men; I seized the other by the throat, and hurled him to the other end of the shop. My physical strength filled them with fear, and I was left master of the field of battle, when Don Pedro, awakening by the noise this scuffle made, ran up to me to demand an explanation.

"I was so confounded that he did not partake of my indignation against the baker that I remained immovable and dumb. Besides I had, for the first time in my life, put myself in a passion; for in the valley, it hath not been known that any ever quarrelled or fought. I was as uneasy as I was angry, for I feared I had dangerously wounded my adversaries; but I soon saw, to my great pleasure, that they had escaped with only a few slight contusions. Don Pedro easily appeased them by his liberality, and gave also to the poor woman the loaf I had broken in her cause, and some money besides.

"Every one was satisfied except myself; for passion still suffocated me, and I was sorry at having ill treated my fellow creatures."

After the travellers had re-seated themselves in their carriage, and as they were proceeding on their journey, Don Pedro took the opportunity to explain to Placide the nature of the distinction of property, and the absolute necessity of giving to each individual, in large communities, an exclusive power over the products of his labour and whatever he may acquire in exchange for them. The argument, on this subject, is plainly and forcibly stated by Don Pedro, and produces entire conviction in the mind of Placide, who takes up the train of thought furnished by the discussion, and pursues it in a beautiful manner to some of its finest and most elevating conclusions. Don Pedro urges the importance of the distinction of property, not only because the state of society to which it leads is productive of a far greater number of desirable temp-

ral results than would be attainable without such distinction, but because it is more consonant to the spirit of true religion ; and goes on to remark that "virtue can shine with all her beauties only among civilized nations." "Yes," exclaims Placide, "I perceive the more man rises by his virtues and his genius, the more effectually he fulfils the views of his Creator, who hath animated him with his divine breath. To extend as far as possible our intellectual faculties, is one of our chief religious duties, and fulfils also the end of our destiny on earth. God hath made nothing in vain, and the virtuous employment of our physical and moral powers, is, without doubt, in his sight a worthy homage of our gratitude. Human industry honours the Creator, since it brings into action every faculty we have received from his goodness. To remain, therefore, wilfully in ignorance, is to despise and reject his benefits. God gave us the empire of the world, because man alone, of all the animated creation, can cultivate the earth and compel her to disclose those treasures which are hidden in her bosom. Without man the magnificence of the earth would be useless as if it did not exist ; and treasures are scattered over her surface, or hidden in her bowels to be the objects of our admiration or of our discovery." "Without doubt," said Don Pedro, "every beauty of creation must command our tribute of admiration, and, therefore, those arts which develope and employ them are of divine origin. We may say the same of all sciences. Their mysterious elements are all found in nature ; we are able to discover certain laws and their results, and to make from them useful applications ; but the primary cause remains concealed, and will always be inexplicable. Like the bountiful Nile, which fertilizes the land it overflows, but the source of which is unknown ; science spreads its beneficent influences among those who cultivate it, but the source remains unexplored ; the wonderful cause of so many admirable effects is in the all-powerful hand of the Creator, and is now, and always will be hid from us by an impenetrable veil." Placide listened with rapture, and soon forgot his anger and indignation. "These reflections," exclaimed he, "are sweet and consoling ! To those who know how to admire the sublime works of the Eternal, they will never fail to yield delight and consolation. This noble creature, who owes his existence to immortal thought and infinite love, man, created to know and worship the author of so many

wonders, will ever live. His gratitude is the sure pledge of his happy immortality, since it is a part of the glory of the benefactor, and no part of this glory will ever be annihilated." "You perceive, then," replied Don Pedro, "that a state of ignorance and idleness, in which every thing is in common, is not the state for which man was created, since it favours only those individuals who are destitute of genius and industry." Placide assented, and promised that he would not again be guilty of theft, and that he would strike no more bakers who should stand up in defence of their property. The travellers arrived at Madrid in the night, and Placide being much fatigued by the unaccustomed mode of conveyance hastened to bed. But he could not sleep for the very reason which probably contributed most to the repose and refreshment of Don Pedro, that is, the softness of the bed, and he lay awake all night. He appeared so ill the next day that it was proposed to send for a physician. "No, if you will take from me this fine bed, and all its useless furniture," said he, "and allow me to make more use of my legs, and give me less of your dainty fare, I shall soon recover my health." Madrid was to the young Battuécas a scene of wonders ; his imagination was dazzled by the splendour, and bewildered and fatigued by the variety of the objects which thronged around him on every side. Soon after his arrival he visited, in company with his friend, one of the principal churches in Madrid, and the impression produced upon his feelings is natural, and forcibly described. While remaining to view the temple, and examine the fine paintings with which it was decorated, after the worshippers had departed, he discovered a female figure, veiled, and kneeling in the attitude of prayer by the side of a superb monument of white marble. This lady was Donna Bianca Xenila, a young widow of surprising beauty, fine talents, and rare virtue. Placide falls violently in love with her, and though his passion is returned, he cannot marry her, for he had engaged himself to a young virgin of the valley before his departure. The effect produced on his character by this new object of admiration and attachment is finely described, and furnishes an occasion for the author to discover her profound knowledge of the human heart. In contrasting the two characters of Donna Bianca, and Inés, the Battuécan virgin, Madame de Genlis has beautifully and truly shown how insufficient is mere personal beauty to secure a deep-felt and un-

alterable love, and how mighty the influence of woman is rendered by associating with the fascination of form, a cultivated understanding, and an enlarged heart.

One morning when his time of his absence from the valley had expired, and as he was suffering the most acute distress from the struggle between his sense of duty to Inés, and his vehement love for Donna Bianca, he received a letter from Father Isidore, informing him that Inés had eloped with a stranger "who came in the dusk of evening, and whose stay was so short that no one learned his name." This released Placide from his vows, and left him and Donna Bianca at liberty to marry. On the very eve, however, when the marriage ceremony was to be performed, when the offering on the altar of Hymen was just about to be kindled by love's own torch, and the temple filled with its incense, it was discovered that Inés had not forgotten her engagement with Placide, that she had been decoyed from the valley by falsehood and deceit, and that she was now confined in a neighbouring castle, under the idea that she was in the care of religious people, and was preparing to take the veil. This was no sooner known to Placide and Donna Bianca, than in obedience to duty, and the impulse of their generous nature, they determined to restore the innocent Inés to liberty and happiness, though it would be at the expense of their own perpetual separation. "Dear Placide," said Donna Bianca, "religion, honour, humanity, command us to act with zeal and promptitude; this is no time for sorrow and tears; let us fulfil our duty, and we shall rise superior to the chastisements of fate." Placide soon after the recovery of Inés marries her, and returns with her to the valley. After some time had been allowed for the mitigation of recent sorrow, and after the consciousness of having acted right had applied its healing efficacy to the lacerated hearts of Donna Bianca and Placide, and left the former at leisure to reflect upon her situation in life, and the claims which society still held upon her abundant means of usefulness, she resolved not to abandon herself to despair, and at the instance of Placide in the first place, was ultimately united to Don Pedro. In the course of time, Don Pedro and Donna Bianca were blessed with a daughter, and Placide and Inés with a son. Six years elapsed before Placide again left the valley. In this interval he devoted himself to the study of the arts, but did not find

them alone sufficient to fill his time with occupation, nor satisfy his desires, for he wanted the stimulus of praise from those who could appreciate his performances. Virtue is, to a considerable extent, its own reward; though it may derive some ardour from the breath of praise, yet it will gain from it no addition to its self-satisfying power, and its light will waver if visited by that breath too roughly; but the intellect and the imagination require the excitement of competition; glory is their reward, and they must receive their laurels from the hand of admiration.

Just before Placide ventured forth from the valley a second time he was surprised by a visit from two strangers. These were the Baron d'Olmar, (mentioned in the beginning of the story as the friend of the Countess Auberive,) and his niece Leontine, the early and most intimate friend of Calista and Adolphus. During this visit Placide learned from the Baron that the Countess Auberive had died at Bayonne on her flight from Paris, that Calista had been seized by the agents of the Directory and carried back to Paris, where, after languishing for a time in prison she was brought to the guillotine, and that Adolphus, though he still cherished the memory of Calista with the sincerest tenderness, had not found himself able to resist the charms of Leontine, who had indeed always loved him, and that they would be married as soon as the Baron and his niece should arrive in France. The manner in which Calista met her fate, and the magnanimous efforts of Leontine to save her, are deeply interesting, not merely because the events in themselves are afflicting, but because they impressively illustrate the energies of our nature, and the sustaining power of righteous principles animated by virtuous affection.

The occasion of Placide's second departure from the valley was his hearing that war had broken out in Spain, and his consequent anxiety for the welfare of Don Pedro and Donna Bianca. He set out for Madrid, but on his way he received information that his friends were still in France; his journey to the capital of Spain would not only be fruitless, therefore, but, from the hostile troops, which beset the roads, would be attended with the greatest danger, and after about a week's absence he returned to his family. During this short period, however, he met with several interesting adventures, and had many of those opportunities which war furnishes in such lamentable frequency, of displaying his hu-

manity and heroism. Among other generous actions he rescued a child from the flames, and as the only person to whom it seemed to be related expired just as he arrived to save it, he took it with him to the valley. After the lapse of some years, news reached the valley that the war was ended, and Placide received a letter from Don Pedro, informing him that he had returned, with his wife to Spain, but that they had lost their child, that grief had brought Donna Bianca to the verge of the grave, and requesting him to repair, with family, immediately to Madrid. Placide obeyed the call, he found his friends in the deepest affliction, but providence had enabled him to bring with him healing and consolation. The child, which he had so fortunately rescued, and cherished in the valley, was the lost daughter of Don Pedro. Thus ends the story.

The incidents which Madame de Genlis has selected are interesting, and are individually well described, though the

story itself does not manifest much epic skill; and the work owes its charm to the design of the author—to the conception on which it is founded, and to the generous strain of feeling, and the impressive eloquence which pervade it, not to any complexity of plot, or any ingenious and unexpected turns in the narrative. Indeed the design of the author rather forbade the exercise of invention in weaving an intricate fable; all that was required, in this way, being only a judicious selection of such a state of society, and some of the prominent scenes by which it is characterized, as would furnish apt occasions for the discussion of general principles, as well as striking illustrations of their truth: accordingly the work is more didactic than narrative. The style of the work has suffered very considerably by the translation, which abounds with inaccuracies both of language and construction; in the present edition there are not a few typographical errors.

L.

ART. 3. *Biographia Literaria; or, Biographical Sketches of my Literary Life and Opinions.* By S. T. Coleridge, Esq. New-York. Kirk & Mercein. Two volumes in one. 12mo. pp. 379.

OUR readers will, perhaps, think it hardly worth while, after the specimens which we have recently exhibited to them of Mr. Coleridge's poetical powers, to trouble themselves with inquiring into the history of either his life or opinions. But if he have failed to interest them as an author, he will at least amuse, and may even instruct them, as a man;—the blank simplicity with which he relates the many 'disastrous strokes that his youth suffered,' converts even distress into matter of merriment; whilst his experience, unprofitable as it has been to himself, can scarcely fail to convey a wholesome lesson to others. The impression made on us by the perusal of this 'singularly wild and original' production, is, we confess, on the whole, not unfavourable to Mr. Coleridge; since it affords not less evidence of the goodness of his heart, than of the badness of his head; and we are always willing to admit a small portion of the one as an equivalent for a large share of the other.

Mr. Coleridge commenced his literary career in the year 1794, by the publication of 'a small volume of juvenile poems.' This work we have never seen since we were in any degree competent to pronounce upon its merits; and our

recollections of it are too imperfect to form the grounds of a judgment now. We believe, however, that it was more favourably received than any of his subsequent works; either because it was freer from faults, or that its faults were deemed the venial errors of an immature mind, which would easily be corrected by riper reason. Mr. Coleridge tells us that his early essays were censured for their 'excess of ornament,' and their 'strained and elaborate diction;' the first of which charges certainly will not lie against his later performances, nor was it, as we remember, any further applicable to the poems alluded to, than that they betrayed a degree of quaintness and affectation of phrase—but the last attaches with equal force, though in a different manner, to all his writings. It is not less unnatural nor less laborious to sink below the dignity of a subject, than to soar above it—whilst it is difficult to decide which is the more ridiculous. Yet into one or other of these follies Mr. Coleridge has ever run. What renders this vacillation and incongruity of his style the more remarkable, is, that he discovers a good taste in estimating the relative rank of the ancient classics, and discriminates with considerable accu-

racy the defects and excellences of some of his most distinguished contemporaries. It is true that the faculty of perceiving beauties in the works of genius or of art, is widely different from the power of producing them. We may admire what we cannot hope to imitate—nor would it be strange if we should for that reason admire it the more. But we seldom imitate what we condemn. We may, perhaps, bestow our approbation where it is not deserved—we may mistake blemishes for graces—but it is strangely inconsistent to commit the very faults which we are first to detect, and foremost to censure. Mr. Coleridge seems, however, to have adopted as the motto of his literary morality,

Video meliora, probaque;
Deteriora sequor.

That Mr. Coleridge was early sensible to the ridicule of which affectation of any kind is susceptible, is evident from the happy manner in which he has burlesqued his own style. After charging most of his predecessors with ignorance of the true art of poetry, he has still the candour to admit, that—"Every reform, however necessary, will by weak minds be carried to an excess, that itself will need reforming." "The reader will excuse me," he continues, "for noticing that I myself was the first to expose *risu honesto* the three sins of poetry, one or the other of which is the most likely to beset a young writer. So long ago as the publication of the second number of the monthly magazine, under the name of NEHEMIAH HIGGENBOTTOM, I contributed three sonnets, the first of which had for its object to excite a good-natured laugh at the spirit of *doleful egotism*, and at the recurrence of favourite phrases, with the double defect of being at once trite and licentious. The second, on low, creeping language and thoughts, under the pretence of *simplicity*. And the third, the phrases of which were borrowed entirely from my own poems, on the indiscriminate use of elaborate and swelling language and imagery."

These sonnets must not be omitted, since they contain touches of that humour which is Mr. Coleridge's best talent, and of which we shall select not a few instances from these volumes.

SONNET I.

Pensive at eve, on the *hard* world I mused,
And my poor heart was sad; so at the MOON
I gazed, and sighed, and sighed; for ah, how soon
Eve saddens into night! mine eyes perused
With tearful vacancy the *damp* grass

That wept and glitter'd in the *paly* ray;
And I did pause me on my lonely way,
And mused me, on the *wretched ones* that pass
O'er the bleak heath of sorrow. But alas!
Most of myself I thought! when it befell,
That the *soothe* spirit of the *breezy* wood
Breathed in mine ear: "All this is very well,
But much of *ONE* thing, is for *NO* thing good."
Oh my poor heart's INEXPLICABLE SWELL!

SONNET II.

Oh I do love thee, meek SIMPLICITY!
For of thy lays the lulling simpleness
Goes to my heart, and soothes each small distress,
Distress tho' small, yet haply great to me;
'Tis true, on Lady Fortune's gentlest pad
I amble on; and yet I know not why
So sad I am! but should a friend and I
Frown, pout, and part, then I am *very* sad.
And then with sonnets and with sympathy
My dreamy bosom's mystic woes I pall;
Now of my false friend plaining plaintively
Now raving at mankind in general;
But whether sad or fierce, 'tis simple all,
All very simple, meek SIMPLICITY!

SONNET III.

And this reft house is that, the which he built,
Lamented Jack! and here his malt he pil'd,
Cautious in vain! these rats, that squeak so wild,
Squeak not unconscious of their father's guilt.
Did he not see her gleaming thro' the glade!
Belike 'twas she, the maiden all forlorn.
What tho' she milk no cow with crumpled horn,
Yet *aye* she haunts the dale where *erst* she stray'd:
And *aye*, beside her stalks her amorous knight!
Still on his thighs their wonted brogues are worn,
And tho' those brogues, still tatter'd and betorn,
His hindward charms gleam an unearthly white.
Ah! thus thro' broken clouds at night's high noon
Peeps in fair fragments forth the full orb'd harvest moon!

But aware as Mr. Coleridge appears to have been of his own besetting sins, and of those of the school to which he was considered to belong, he does not seem to have taken kindly the castigation inflicted by professed critics. He has written a chapter upon the 'supposed irritability of men of genius,' in which he discovers no little want of temper in labouring to prove the *injustice* of the accusation. The reason of this earnestness in refuting so ungenerous an aspersion soon betrays itself. He was meditating an attack upon the reviewers, and deemed it important to premonish the reader that he is naturally a man of a meek disposition. But if he has received the treatment of which he complains, we cannot blame his impatience. He has given us an insight into the conduct of the British reviews not calculated to raise our respect for their opinions. We shall return to this subject.

It is much to Mr. Coleridge's credit, however, that all this warmth is not kindled merely on his own account. He resents

with equal sensitiveness the injuries done to his friends Southey and Wordsworth. We extract his eulogium on the former as alike honourable to himself and to the subject of his panegyric. After expressing his high admiration of his friend's numerous literary and poetical compositions, he proceeds.—

“Here, then, shall I conclude? No! The characters of the deceased, like the encomia on tombstones, as they are described with religious tenderness, so are they read, with allowing sympathy, indeed, but yet with rational deduction. There are men who deserve a higher record; men with whose characters it is the interest of their contemporaries, no less than that of posterity, to be made acquainted; while it is yet possible for impartial censure, and even for quick-sighted envy, to cross-examine the tale without offence to the courtesies of humanity: and while the eulogist, detected in exaggeration or falsehood, must pay the full penalty of his baseness in the contempt which brands the convicted flatterer. Publicly has Mr. Southey been reviled by men, who (I would fain hope for the honour of human nature) hurled fire-brands against a figure of their own imagination; publicly have his talents been depreciated, his principles denounced; as publicly do I, therefore, who have known him intimately, deem it my duty to leave recorded, that it is SOUTHEY'S almost unexampled felicity to possess the best gifts of talent and genius free from all their characteristic defects. To those who remember the state of our public schools and universities some twenty years past, it will appear no ordinary praise in any man to have passed from innocence into virtue, not only free from all vicious habit, but unstained by one act of intemperance, or the degradations akin to intemperance. That scheme of head, heart, and habitual demeanour, which, in his early manhood and first controversial writings, Milton, claiming the privilege of self-defence, asserts of himself, and challenges his calumniators to disprove; this will his school-mates, his fellow collegians, and his maturer friends, with a confidence proportioned to the intimacy of their knowledge, bear witness to, as again realized in the life of Robert Southey. But still more striking to those who, by biography, or by their own experience, are familiar with the general habits of industry and perseverance in his pursuits; the worthiness and dignity of those pursuits; his generous submission to tasks of transitory interest, or such as *his* genius alone could

make otherwise; and that having thus more than satisfied the claims of affection or prudence, he should yet have made for himself time and power to achieve more, and in more various departments, than almost any other writer has done, though employed wholly on subjects of his own choice and ambition. But as Southey possesses, and is not possessed by, his genius, even so is he the master even of his virtues. The regular and methodical tenor of his daily labours, which would be deemed rare in the most mechanical pursuits, and might be envied by the mere man of business, loses all semblance of formality in the dignified simplicity of his manners, in the spring and healthful cheerfulness of his spirits. Always employed, his friends find him always at leisure. No less punctual in trifles, than steadfast in the performance of the highest duties, he inflicts none of those small pains and discomforts which irregular men scatter about them, and which, in the aggregate, so often become formidable obstacles both to happiness and utility; while, on the contrary, he bestows all the pleasures, and inspires all that ease of mind on those around him, or connected with him, which perfect consistency, and (if such a word might be framed) absolute *reliability*, equally in small as in great concerns, cannot but inspire and bestow: when this, too, is softened without being weakened by kindness and gentleness. I know few men who so well deserve the character which an ancient attributes to Marcus Cato, namely, that he was likeliest virtue, in as much as he seemed to act aright, not in obedience to any law or outward motive, but by the necessity of a happy nature, which could not act otherwise. As son, brother, husband, father, master, friend, he moves with firm, yet light steps, alike unostentatious, and alike exemplary. As a writer he has uniformly made his talents subservient to the best interests of humanity, of public virtue, and domestic piety, his cause has ever been the cause of pure religion and of liberty, of national independence, and of national illumination. When future critics shall weigh out his guerdon of praise and censure, it will be Southey the poet only, that will supply them with the scanty materials for the latter. They will likewise not fail to record, that as no man was ever a more constant friend and honourers among the good of all parties; and that quacks in education, quacks in politics, and quacks in criticism, were his only enemies.”

The generous spirit which breathes

through this passage, and its moral elevation, give it a tone of eloquence, notwithstanding its verbal and grammatical inaccuracies. We shall speak in another place of Mr. Coleridge's habitual violations of grammar, but the sentence beginning, "But still more striking," &c. is so exceedingly vicious that we cannot suffer it to pass us here without reprehension.

We ought to have mentioned before, as essential to the understanding of this book, or rather as accounting for the utter incomprehensibility of the greater part of it, that Mr. Coleridge had 'bewildered' himself 'even before his fifteenth year, in metaphysics, and in theological controversy.' Sorry we are to say he seems yet to have obtained no light on the subjects of his investigation. It is to be hoped that, in the work with which he threatens us, 'on the Productive Logos human and divine; with, and, as the introduction to a full commentary on the Gospel of St. John;' he will elucidate—at least his meaning. As an instance of perseverance in the discharge of duty, if not as a feat which few can boast of, we may take some credit to ourselves for having diligently and deliberately read and marked the chapters, in the volume before us, on *the law of association*, on the systems of *Aristotle and Hartley*, on the consequences of the *Hartleian theory*, on the possibility of *philosophy as a science*, (and therein of *PLATO, JACOB BEHMEN, and EMANUEL KANT*), the chapter *advising the reader not to read the next chapter*, and the chapter *which ought not to be read*,—we say that we may take some credit to ourselves for having diligently and deliberately read and marked these various ingenious and erudite dissertations, but as to having *inwardly digested* them, we will frankly confess that this is a function that entirely transcends our intellectual faculties.

We are more inclined to laugh with, than at Mr. Coleridge, and shall therefore refrain from entering into an exposition of his psychological theories. It is but fair to acknowledge that he affords us frequent opportunities of indulging our prevailing inclination. In his 'advice to young authors respecting publication,' and 'various anecdotes of the author's literary life, and the progress of his opinions in religion and politics,' there is a great deal of lively wit and pungent satire; whilst the good-nature with which he tells the story of his chagrins dissipates every idea of mortification. Among his literary undertakings Mr. Coleridge commenced the publication of a periodical work entitled 'the Friend.' The fate of

his enterprise leads him to warn others not to calculate very much on the number of names on their subscription list, unless they know the character and circumstances of their subscribers. Of a hundred subscribers obtained to this publication by a single friend, "ninety," he tells us, "threw it up before the fourth number, without any notice; though it was well known to them, that in consequence of the distance, and slowness, and irregularity of the conveyance, I was compelled to lay in a stock of stamped paper for at least eight weeks beforehand; each sheet of which stood me in five pence previous to its arrival at my printer's; though the subscription money was not to be received till the twenty-first week after the commencement of the work; and lastly, though it was in nine cases out of ten impracticable for me to receive the money for two or three numbers without paying an equal sum for the postage.

"In confirmation of my first caveat, I will select one fact among many. On my list of subscribers, among a considerable number of names equally flattering, was that of an Earl of Cork, with his address. He might as well have been an Earl of Bottle, for aught I knew of him, who had been content to reverence the peerage in abstracto, rather than in concretis. Of course, THE FRIEND was regularly sent as far, if I remember right, as the eighteenth number, i. e. till a fortnight before the subscription was to be paid. And lo! just at this time I received a letter from his lordship, reproving me in language far more lordly than courteous, for my impudence in directing my pamphlets to him, who knew nothing of me nor my work! Seventeen or eighteen numbers of which, however, his lordship was pleased to retain, probably for the culinary or post-culinary conveniences of his servants."

In the next place he warns "all others from the attempt to deviate from the ordinary mode of publishing a work by *the trade*," though he disclaims at the same time any insinuations derogatory to the fairness of the general character of booksellers. In support of this monition he adduces the following anecdote.

"A learned and exemplary old clergyman, who many years ago went to his reward, followed by the regrets and blessings of his flock, published at his own expense two volumes octavo, entitled, a new Theory of Redemption. The work was most severely handled in the Monthly or Critical Review, I forget which; and this unprovoked hostility became

the good old man's favourite topic of conversation among his friends. Well! (he used to exclaim,) in the SECOND edition I shall have an opportunity of exposing both the ignorance and the malignity of the anonymous critic. Two or three years, however, passed by without any tidings from the bookseller, who had undertaken the printing and publication of the work, and who was perfectly at his ease, as the author was known to be a man of large property. At length the *accounts* were written for; and in the course of a few weeks they were presented by the *rider* for the house, in person. My old friend put on his spectacles, and holding the scroll with no very firm hand, began—*Paper, so much: O moderate enough—not at all beyond my expectations! Printing, so much: Well; moderate enough! Stitching, covers, advertisements, carriage, &c. so much.*—Still nothing amiss. *Selleridge*, (for orthography is no necessary part of a bookseller's literary acquirements,) £3. 3s. Bless me! only three guineas for the what d'ye call it? the *selleridge*? No more, Sir! replied the rider. Nay, but that is *too moderate*! rejoined my old friend. Only three guineas for *selling* a thousand copies of a work in two volumes? O Sir! (cries the young traveller,) you have mistaken the word. There have been none of them *sold*; they have been sent back from London long ago; and this £3. 3s. is for the *selleridge*, or warehouse-room in our book cellar. The work was in consequence preferred from the ominous cellar of the publisher to the author's garret; and on presenting a copy to an acquaintance, the old gentleman used to tell the anecdote with great good humour, and still greater good nature."

But the most impressive illustration of the wisdom of his precepts is contained in the following statement of his own case.

"With equal lack of worldly knowledge, I was a far more than equal sufferer for it, at the very outset of my authorship. Toward the close of the first year from the time that, in an inauspicious hour I left the friendly cloisters, and the happy grove of quiet, ever honoured Jesus College, Cambridge, I was persuaded by sundry Philanthropists and Antipolemist to set on foot a periodical work, entitled THE WATCHMAN, that (according to the general motto of the work) *all might know the truth, and that the truth might make us free!* In order to exempt it from the stamp-tax, and likewise to contribute as little as possible to the sup-

posed guilt of a war against freedom, it was to be published on every eighth day, thirty-two pages, large octavo, closely printed, and price only FOUR-PENCE. Accordingly, with a flaming prospectus, "*Knowledge is power,*" &c. to try the state of the political atmosphere, and so forth, I set off on a tour to the north, from Bristol to Sheffield, for the purpose of procuring customers, preaching by the way in most of the great towns, as an hireless volunteer, in a blue coat and white waist coat, that not a rag of the woman of Babylon might be seen on me. For I was at that time, and long after, though a Trinitarian (i. e. ad normam Platonis) in philosophy, yet a zealous Unitarian in religion; more accurately, I was a *psilanthropist*, one of those who believe our Lord to have been the real son of Joseph, and who lay the main stress on the resurrection rather than on the crucifixion. O! never can I remember those days with either shame or regret. For I was most sincere, most disinterested! My opinions were, indeed, in many and most important points erroneous; but my heart was single. Wealth, rank, life itself, then seemed cheap to me, compared with the interests of (what I believed to be) the truth, and the will of my maker. I cannot even accuse myself of having been actuated by vanity; for in the expansion of my enthusiasm, I did not think of *myself* at all.

"My campaign commenced at Birmingham; and my first attack was on a rigid Calvinist, a tallow chandler by trade. He was a tall dingy man, in whom length was so predominant over breadth, that he might almost have been borrowed for a foundery poker. O that face! a face κατεμπροσιν! I have it before me at this moment. The lank, black, twine-like hair, *pingui nitescent*, cut in a straight line along the black stubble of his thin gunpowder eye-brows, that looked like a scorched *after-math* from a last week's shaving. His coat collar behind in perfect unison, both of colour and lustre, with the coarse yet glib cordage, that I suppose he called his hair, and which, with a *bend* inward at the nape of the neck, (the only approach to flexure in his whole figure,) slunk in behind his waistcoat; while the countenance, lank, dark, very *hard*, and with strong perpendicular furrows, gave me a dim notion of some one looking at me through a *used* gridiron, all soot, grease, and iron! But he was one of the *thorough bred*, a true lover of liberty, and (I was informed) had proved to the satisfaction of many, that Mr. Pitt was one of the

horns of the second beast in the Revelations, *that spoke like a dragon*. A person, to whom one of my letters of recommendation had been addressed was my introducer. It was a new event in my life, my first *stroke* in the new business I had undertaken of an author, yea, and of an author trading on his own account. My companion, after some imperfect sentences, and a multitude of hums and haas, abandoned the cause to his client; and I commenced an harangue of half an hour to Phileleutheros, the tallow-chandler, varying my notes through the whole gamut of eloquence, from the ratiocinative to the declamatory, and in the latter from the pathetic to the indignant I argued, I described, I promised, I prophesied; and beginning with the captivity of nation, I ended with the near approach of the millenium, finishing the whole with some of my own verses describing that glorious state out of the *Religious Musings*:

“—————Such delights,
As float to earth, permitted visitants!
When in some hour of solemn jubilee
The massive gates of Paradise are thrown
Wide open: and forth come in fragments wild
Sweet echoes of unearthly melodies,
And odours snatch'd from beds of Amaranth,
And they that from the chrystal river of life
Spring up on freshen'd wings, ambrosial gales!
Religious Musings, l. 356.

“My taper man of lights listened with perseverant and praise-worthy patience, though (as I was afterwards told on complaining of certain gales that were not altogether ambrosial) it was a *melting* day with him. And what, Sir! (he said after a short pause) might the cost be? *Only FOUR-PENCE*, (O! how I felt the anti-climax, the abysmal bathos of that *four-pence*!) *only four-pence, Sir, each number, to be published on every eighth day*. That comes to a deal of money at the end of a year. And how much did you say there was to be for the money? *Thirty-two pages, Sir! large octavo, closely printed*, Thirty and two pages? Bless me, why except what I does in a family way on a sabbath, that's more than I ever reads, Sir! all the year round. I am as great a one as any man in Brummagem, Sir! for liberty and truth, and all them sort of things, but as to this (no offence, I hope, Sir!) I must beg to be excused.

“So ended my first canvass; from causes that I shall presently mention, I made but one other application in person. This took place at Manchester, to a stately and opulent wholesale dealer in cottons. He took my letter of introduction, and having perused it, measured me from head

to foot, and again from foot to head, and then asked if I had any bill or invoice of the thing; I presented my prospectus to him; he rapidly skimmed and hummed over the first side, and still more rapidly the second and concluding page; crushed it within his fingers and the palm of his hand; then most deliberately and *significantly* rubbed and smoothed one part against the other; and, lastly, putting it into his pocket, turned his back on me with an “*over run* with these articles!” and so, without another syllable, retired to his counting-house; and, I can truly say to my unspeakable amusement.”

Our author here abandoned the attempt to procure subscriptions by personal application. His friends however took up the business, and prosecuted it, as we learn from him, with more success.

“From this rememberable tour I returned with nearly a thousand names on the subscription list of the *Watchman*; yet more than half convinced, that prudence dictated the abandonment of the scheme. But for this very reason I persevered in it; for I was at that period of my life so completely hag-ridden by the fear of being influenced by selfish motives, that to know a mode of conduct to be the dictate of *prudence*, was a sort of presumptive proof to my feelings, that the contrary was the dictate of *duty*. Accordingly, I commenced the work, which was announced in London by long bills, in letters larger than had ever been seen before, and which (I have been informed, for I did not see them myself) eclipsed the glories even of the lottery puffs. But, alas! the publication of the very first number was delayed beyond the day announced for its appearance. In the second number an essay against fast days, with a most censurable application of a text from Isaiah for its motto, lost me near five hundred of my subscribers at one blow. In the two following numbers I made enemies of all my Jacobin and Democratic patrons: for disgusted by their infidelity, and their adoption of French morals with French *philosophy*; and perhaps thinking, that charity ought to begin nearest home: instead of abusing the government and the Aristocrats chiefly or entirely, as had been expected of me, I levelled my attacks at “*modern patriotism*,” and even ventured to declare my belief, that whatever the motives of ministers might have been for the sedition (or as it was then the fashion to call them, the *gagging*) bills, yet the bills themselves would produce an effect to be desired by all the true friends of free-

dom, as far as they should contribute to deter men from openly declaiming on subjects, the principles of which they had never bottomed, and from "pleading to the poor and ignorant, instead of pleading for them." At the same time I avowed my conviction, that national education, and a concurring spread of the gospel, were the indispensable condition of any true political amelioration. Thus, by the time the seventh number was published, I had the mortification (but why should I say this, when, in truth, I cared too little for any thing that concerned my worldly interests to be at all mortified about it?) of seeing the preceding numbers exposed in their dry old iron shops for a penny a piece. At the ninth number I dropt the work. But from the London publisher I could not obtain a shilling; he was a——— and set me at defiance. From other places I procured but little, and after such delays as rendered that little worth nothing: and I should have been inevitably thrown into jail by my Bristol printer, who refused to wait even for a month for a sum between eighty and ninety pounds, if the money had not been paid for me by a man by no means affluent, a dear friend who attached himself to me from my first arrival at Bristol, who has continued my friend with a fidelity unconquered by time or even by my own apparent neglect; a friend from whom I never received an advice that was not wise, or a remonstrance that was not gentle and affectionate."

Mr. Coleridge tells us that he now sought a refuge, from trouble and the world, with love—in a cottage. He took up his residence at Stowey, and provided for his "scanty maintenance by writing verses for a London Morning Paper." But even here he could not escape from humiliating evidences "of the unsaleable nature of his writings." "For," says he, "happening to rise at an earlier hour than usual, I observed her putting an extravagant quantity of paper into the grate in order to light the fire, and mildly checked her for her wastefulness; la, Sir! (replied poor Nanny) why, it is only 'WATCH-MAN.'"

Had Mr. Coleridge shown the same talent in his paper, which he has exhibited in relating the tale of his knight-errantry, we cannot think he would have had reason to complain of the indisposition of the public to patronise him. There are, it is true, in every country where property constitutes the chief claim to consideration, and where the

constant fluctuation of property throws it frequently into the hands of the ignorant and the sordid, men of some consequence, who cannot read any thing but a newspaper, and cannot understand the half of that, from whom it is vain to expect any patronage for literature; but there is in England, and there is in America, a sufficient number of enlightened and liberal persons, willing and able to support works of value. The value of a work, however, results not merely from the quantity of genius and learning it evinces, but from their application. A man may write a very wise book which nobody will buy, if he shall select a subject which interests nobody. We do not say that a wise man might write such a book, for this would be a solecism, and the other may appear paradoxical.

In computing the worth of a publication the purchaser computes the advantage he can derive from it, which may consist in either entertainment or instruction, or in both. Subscribers to periodical works expect a variety not only of articles, but of topics and of manner, whilst they hope to receive from all either information or amusement. But to what other uses Mr. Coleridge's chimerical essays could have been applied, than those to which they were converted, we cannot well conceive.

We have not room to trace all Mr. Coleridge's religious and political meanderings from jacobinism to ministerialism, and from *psilanthropism* to trinitarianism. He informs us that from the commencement of the Addington administration to the present day, he has been a constant writer in the *Morning Post* and the *Courier*. Of the former paper he was for many years the principal editor. He has not however always accorded with the policy of the government. He was opposed to the unhappy war with this country, and expresses his satisfaction in seeing not only "the sentiments but the language" of some of the articles which he had written, "adopted in several of the Massachusetts State-papers." As to the coincidence of the sentiment of any paragraph of Mr. Coleridge's with any sentiment expressed in any of the Massachusetts State-papers, we have no means of determining, but that any sentiment was *adopted* from Mr. Coleridge we are slow to believe, and that an enlightened legislature should borrow his *language* is truly incredible.

In the chapter entitled, "An affectionate exhortation to those who in early life feel themselves disposed to become au-

thors," Mr. Coleridge emphatically inculcates it upon his young readers, NEVER TO PURSUE LITERATURE AS A TRADE; which advice he supports by some judicious arguments. But we must pass over this, and we must pass over his critical examination of Mr. Wordsworth's poetical principles, and of the character of his poetical writings, which he has extended through a very considerable part of the second volume. We may hereafter find an appropriate occasion to enter into the consideration of Mr. Wordsworth's style; we must content ourselves, at present, with expressing a general coincidence with Mr. Coleridge's estimate of this eccentric writer. We cannot but remark again how forcibly we are struck with the correctness of Mr. Coleridge's judgment, which seems to be entirely at variance with his muse.

Mr. Coleridge thinks that, in the manner in which they are conducted, the British Reviews, are not likely to assist in forming the public taste, nor to encourage general benevolence. They not only feed malignity, but they stimulate it. To give pungency to a paragraph the reviewers, he asserts, are willing to sacrifice not only truth and their own convictions, but the peace and even the livelihood of the objects of their satire. In their judicial capacity they promulge opinions directly contrary to those which they profess in private circles, provided an opportunity for *persiflage* presents itself—though out of their profession, they are "all honourable men." We must make some deduction for the exasperation of an author smarting under a recent infliction of the critical rod; but Mr. Coleridge does not deal in vague assertion. He cites instances within his own knowledge in proof of his charges. Speaking of the ireful mood of the Edinburgh Reviewers against Mr. Wordsworth, and the resentment which this gentleman betrayed, he says, "let not Mr. Wordsworth be charged with having expressed himself too indignantly, till the wantonness and the systematic and malignant perseverance of the aggressions have been taken into fair consideration. I myself heard the commander in chief of this unmanly warfare make a boast of his private admiration of Wordsworth's genius. I have heard him declare, that whoever came into his room would probably find the Lyrical Ballads lying open on his table, and that (speaking exclusively of those written by Mr. Wordsworth himself,) he could nearly repeat the whole of them by heart."

But Mr. Coleridge has suffered in his own person from a similar instance of

duplicity. Indeed in his case there seems to have been double-dealing in brother authors as well as in reviewers. Mr. C. tells the story with a good grace—but we shall only extract a single paragraph. He contrasts the premature praises bestowed on the *Christabel*, with its ultimate reception.

"In the Edinburgh Review it was assailed with a malignity and a spirit of personal hatred that ought to have injured only the work in which such a tirade was suffered to appear; and this review was generally attributed (whether rightly or no I know not) to a man who, both in my presence and in my absence, has repeatedly pronounced it the finest poem of its kind in the language. This may serve as a warning to authors, that in their calculations on the probable reception of a poem, they must subtract to a large amount from the panegyric; which may have encouraged them to publish it, however unsuspecting and however various the sources of this panegyric may have been."

But if we may believe Mr. Coleridge, not only do modern reviewers belie their private professions, in their denunciations *ex cathedra*, but they are base enough to abuse the rites of hospitality, and to repay benefits by insults and injuries. The following anecdote related by Mr. C. requires no comment.

"Some years ago a gentleman, the chief writer and conductor of a celebrated review, distinguished by its hostility to Mr. Southey, spent a day or two at Keswick. That he was, without diminution on this account, treated with every hospitable attention by Mr. Southey and myself, I trust I need not say. But one thing I may venture to notice, that at no period of my life do I remember to have received so many, and such high coloured compliments in so short a space of time. He was likewise circumstantially informed by what series of accidents it had happened, that Mr. Wordsworth, Mr. Southey, and I, had become neighbours; and how utterly unfounded was the supposition, that we considered ourselves, as belonging to any common school, but that of good sense, confirmed by the long established models of the best times of Greece, Rome, Italy, and England, and still more groundless the notion, that Mr. Southey, (for, as to myself, I have published so little, and that little of so little importance, as to make it almost ludicrous to mention my name at all,) could have been concerned in the formation of a poetic sect with Mr. Wordsworth, when so many of his works had been published,

not only previously to any acquaintance between them, but before Mr. Wordsworth himself had written any thing but in a diction ornate, and uniformly sustained; when, too, the slightest examination will make it evident, that between those and the after writings of Mr. Southey, there exists no other difference than that of a progressive degree of excellence from progressive development of power, and progressive facility from habit and increase of experience. Yet among the first articles which this man wrote after his return from Keswick, we were characterized as "the School of whining and hypochondriacal poets that haunt the Lakes." In reply to a letter from the same gentleman, in which he had asked me, whether I was in earnest in preferring the style of Hooker to that of Dr. Johnson, and Jeremy Taylor to Burke, I stated, somewhat at large, the comparative excellences and defects which characterized our best prose writers from the reformation to the first half of Charles II.; and that of those who had flourished during the present reign, and the preceding one. About twelve months afterwards a review appeared on the same subject, in the concluding paragraph of which the reviewer asserts, that his chief motive for entering into the discussion was to separate a national and qualified admiration of our elder writers, from the indiscriminate enthusiasm of a recent school, who praised what they did not understand, and caricatured what they were unable to imitate. And, that no doubt might be left concerning the persons alluded to, the writer annexes the names of Miss BAILIE, W. SOUTHEY, WORDSWORTH, and COLERIDGE. For that which follows, I have only hear-say evidence, but yet such as demands my belief; viz. that on being questioned concerning this apparently wanton attack, more especially with reference to Miss Bailie, the writer had stated as his motives, that this lady, when at Edinburgh, had declined a proposal of introducing him to her; that Mr. Southey had written against him; and Mr. Wordsworth had talked contemptuously of him; but that as to Coleridge, he had noticed him merely because the names of Southey and Wordsworth and Coleridge always went together."

Mr. Coleridge's frank admission of the insignificance of his 'singularly beautiful' poem, must disarm honest criticism of all its severity. We confess that we did ridicule the Christabel, and do still hold it most ridiculous, but we are now more inclined to sympathize with Mr.

Coleridge than to make him the butt of jests, which, after the palinode on his part, would be both unfeeling and unmanly.

In this farrago, which he calls biographical sketches, Mr. Coleridge has introduced, in a review of the tragedy of Bertram, some very just remarks on the modern drama. From this specimen of his critical acumen we are led to hope that he will one day give to the world his lectures upon Shakspeare, which he has been reading for many years in London. We believe him much better qualified to comment on our great dramatic bard, than to establish a new theory of *psychology*, or to form a standard of the English tongue. Indeed Mr. Coleridge's project of writing a complete dictionary and logical grammar of our language, is as absurd as his utter ignorance of the value, and of the sensible construction of words, is astonishing. We shall not advert to the multitude of his new-coined and newly compounded terms, but will point out a few of the violations of the common rules of syntax, of which we took notice, in a single reading of the book in hand. In page 8 we have this sentence. "I learnt from him that poetry, even that of the loftiest, and seemingly, that of the wildest odes, had a logic of its own, as severe as that of science; and more difficult, because more subtle, more complex, and dependent on more, and more fugitive causes." Here Mr. Coleridge either uses *more* in one case as an adjective, after having used it three times immediately before as an adverb, as which he employs it again directly afterwards, or he means it as an adverb throughout, and then we are to understand 'more and more fugitive causes,' as a comparison of the successive states of these causes in relation to themselves, which, besides being nonsense, is equally objectionable in the connexion. A similar abuse of *more* will be seen in a sentence which we have already singled out as pregnant with faults. Page 16, we have, "neither bookish nor vulgar, neither redolent of the lamp or of the kennel." This form of expression, *neither* followed by *or* as its correlative, occurs more than fifty times in this book, whilst the first member of the quotation is the only instance in which the proper correspondence has been observed; and we are strongly inclined to suspect that this single exception is owing to an oversight of the printer's. In page 65 we meet with the following sentence. "Whenever, therefore, any *one* of the movements which constitute a

complex impression, are renewed through the senses, the others succeed mechanically." Page 37, Vol. 2, we find, "neither one or the other differ half as much," &c. and again, "or even, perhaps, as the exciseman, publican, or barber happen to be or not to be," &c. In page 99, Vol. 2, we have the following errors, "from which one or other of two evils result." "The fourth class of defects is closely connected with the former; but yet are such," &c. Page 102, Vol. 2, we read—"There are many of us that still possess some remembrances more or less distinct, respecting themselves," &c. By the way, Mr. Coleridge has undertaken to account for the Irishman's bull, 'I was a fine child but they changed me!' Mr.

Coleridge talks of *an* hundred, *an* harshness, *an* history, *an* heretic, &c. &c. We shall not pretend to take any note of the defective, redundant, insensible, or unintelligible sentences which abound in this work. We have shown sufficient evidence of our author's incompetency to the office of a lexicographer, and must now take our leave of him; though had we more time and room we might still glean much entertainment from this miscellaneous effusion.

As this biography is professed to be designed as an introduction to Mr. Coleridge's "Sybilline Leaves," we were at the pains to procure a copy of that work, but after a slight experiment gave up the idea of reading it.
E.

ART. 4. *Sketches of Lower Canada, Historical and Descriptive; with the Author's Recollections of the Soil and Aspect; the Morals, Habits, and Religious Institutions of that Isolated Country; during a Tour to Quebec in the month of July, 1817. By Joseph Sansom, Esq. Member of the American Philosophical Society, Author of Letters from Europe, &c.* New-York. Kirk & Mercein. 12mo. pp. 316.

THE time, we trust, has now arrived, when foreigners shall cease to degrade the literary pretensions of the United States. After having perused this work, they will consider the literary character of this nation as fixed on a basis moveless as Atlas, lofty as the Andes, and permanent as Pindus, Pelion, or Parnassus.

In early life the mighty mind of Milton was pregnant with something great, and in due time appeared *Paradise Lost*: of which an accident in Italy gave the first hint. The mind of Mr. Sansom appears to have been at least ten months gone with similar greatness. What accident induced him to be delivered in the shape unfolded by the title of his work, we are not informed. It is, however, of little importance; though the causes might tend much to gratify the curiosity of future ages.

The author informs us that his work was "put to press after having been hastily written from penciled memorandums, during a fortnight's stay at Ballstown and Saratoga." The future biographers of Mr. Sansom are here saved we know not how much laborious research in ascertaining the time occupied in writing this immortal work, and the places in which it was written. Johnson's *Prince of Abyssinia* was written in seven evenings: the "Sketches" of the American Philosopher, were the labour of but a fortnight. The title was at first modestly, printed "A Trip to Canada."

"Under his forming hand a creature grew,
"Manlike;"

and a more appropriate title was deemed necessary. We will give the words of the author:

"But the composition insensibly assuming a more historical and scientific form, in going through the press, amidst the Libraries of New-York, it was decided, in a literary circle, at Dr. Hosack's, that the scope of the Work demanded a more elaborate designation: and the title has been accordingly varied to that of "Sketches of Lower Canada, historical and descriptive;" the discrepancy of which, with the *style* and *matter* of a Book of Travels, may possibly be excused by the learned; in favour of the obvious occasion for more general views of society on the American Continent, than have hitherto obtained, either at home or abroad."

"Going through the press, amidst the libraries of New-York, it was decided at Dr. Hosack's, &c." We entirely agree with the learned author that the "historical and scientific form" of his work, demanded a title more sonorous, and descriptive of the historical talents and knowledge, and the scientific erudition of the author, than the humble one of "A Trip to Canada." Almost any man could have written a *Trip*: a member of the American Philosophical Society must, *ex-officio*, stand on higher ground. We admire the condescension of Mr. Sansom in giving the world the informa-

tion, that he is a member of that Society, thus exalting its reputation: nor less do we applaud his generosity in contriving to introduce into his volume the names of *De Witt Clinton, Hosack, &c.* which might otherwise be forgotten; but, by being incorporated with the "Sketches," their little barks will

"attendant sail,
Pursue the triumph, and partake the gale."

We must acknowledge that we are somewhat surprised at the information that this work *went through the press* amidst the *libraries* of New-York. By those who are unacquainted with the literary and scientific reputation of Mr. Sansom, the inference might possibly be drawn that he had resorted to libraries. This, however, is not the fact. The whole work shows that Mr. Sansom has depended almost altogether on the exhaustless resources of his own mind, rejecting the precarious assistance of books, excepting occasionally, extracts from Cowper's Task, for ornament; or from a French grammar, to correct his dialogues in that language.

Mr. Sansom appears to be fond of the word *isolated*; having used it in many places in his work, and even in the title-page; where, to understand its precise meaning would be difficult: but here, as in very many instances, much is left to the reader's imagination, according to the precepts of the best rhetoricians.

Extensive as is the title-page, it is deficient. The author does not enter Canada till he arrives at the 45th page of his volume, the first part of which is occupied with his journey from Philadelphia to New-York, a short description of the latter city, his progress up the Hudson, &c. For the next edition of his work, we therefore recommend this alteration of his title-page. "Sketches of *matters and things in general*, more particularly of Lower Canada, &c." Such a genius as that of Mr. Sansom cannot be confined to any particular climate or subject.

At the commencement of his Rambler, Dr. Johnson laments that custom has not prescribed for essayists, as for epic poets, a general mode of introduction. Mr. Sansom appears to have conformed to the rule of Horace, and plunges in *medias res non secus ac notas* at once. Perhaps the similarity will be perceived only by ourselves; but his opening to our view greatly resembles that of the tenth book of the Eneid: *Panditur interea domus, &c.* That the reader may

judge for himself, we insert the first paragraph.

"Under the impressions hinted at in my prefatory remarks, at 3 o'clock, P. M. on the 30th day of June, 1817, I stept on board of the Bristol Steam Boat, at Market-Street wharf, with a portmanteau containing nothing more than was absolutely necessary, a cane in my hand, and Thomson's Seasons in my pocket; but no other companions excepting such as I might meet with in the public conveyances, who may be not inaptly considered the Tourist's Family, as the Inn is said to be the Traveller's home."

Mr. Sansom here evidently obeys Horace, and treats of things *non secus ac notas*, as if his readers must be well acquainted with Philadelphia, the Delaware, &c. It would have been more gratifying, however, had he commenced *ab ovo*, with the discovery of America, the settlement of Pennsylvania, the foundation of Philadelphia, &c. Why he has chosen to give a description of the principal objects in New-York, neglecting those of Philadelphia, will perhaps for ever remain a subject of conjecture. Philadelphia

"is a town

"To those that dwell therein well known :

"Therefore there needs no more be said here,

"We unto them refer the reader."

Why the same reference might not be made to those who dwell in New-York it is not for us to say. Let us be thankful for what is given, nor complain that more is not bestowed, where we had no cause for expecting any thing; a description of New-York not being necessarily connected with Sketches of Lower Canada, more than is that of Charleston, South Carolina.

Mr. Sansom informs us that "he stept on board at 3 o'clock, P. M."

Why are we left in the dark on the not less important subject, the mode of his conveyance to the wharf: whether on his "ten-toed machine," or in a coach?

At Bristol our philosopher took the stage, in which was "a Creole from New-Orleans, who had already travelled in similar conveyances fifteen hundred miles—an end."—By which we are to understand, not miles piled one upon another, but placed, the head of one at the tail of another.

Dr. Franklin was not less remarkable for his humour than for his philosophy. The same may with justice be said of

Mr. Sansom. It is to be lamented that his modesty has prevented his giving his readers so little of his wit, while he is so profuse of his philosophy. Our readers must be contented with one quotation from the Sketches.

"Before entering Brunswick, or between that ancient town which preserves so much of the neatness and formality of its primitive inhabitants, and the delightful village of Newark, which has been so often selected as the temporary residence of involuntary refugees of quality, from different parts of Europe; as the driver lingered along the sands of Jersey, we passed by one tavern, the sign of the *Union*, and stopped to water at another under the same patronage. These people are great admirers of *union*, it would seem, said one of our company. Yes, replied I, they are so fond of *union* that they di-*vide* it. We had come on so very slowly for the last few miles, that one had proposed to put a *snapper* upon the driver's whip, as we waited for him without quitting our seats; and, he staid so long at the bar while the people of the house were sitting down to meat, that another suspected he was going to breakfast there, and we should have to wait till he was done. That would be an unlucky *snap* for us, said I. He however presently came out again, and we drove off at an accelerated pace; but it was not long before we *snapped* one of our jack-springs, and we were fain to crack our jokes with less merriment the rest of the way."

There are some other evidences of our philosopher's humour, *rari nantes in gurgite vasto*, which may be found with due research.

Mr. Sansom arrived "at New-York time enough to dine at the City Hotel;" visited the Battery, "a promenade of health and pleasure crowded of an evening, with the *familiar intercourse* of youth and beauty, amid the *retiring* sons of business and care." He visited also the City-Hall, "the *back front*, and basement story of which is of free-stone," and Broadway, which "*comes in straight for a mile*."

"After it has passed the *Stadt House* above mentioned, which by the way is now sadly obscured by ragged trees which entirely prevent a front view—They might be readily exchanged for a neat clump or two, at distant intervals, leaving from the street an uninterrupted view of the structure in different directions."

Here, as in numerous other cases, too tedious to mention, we have an instance of that noble neglect of grammar and meaning which betrays the man of genius—Broadway after it has *passed* the City-Hall, seems to have taken its flight we know not where: but, in its absence, we are consoled with a hint that a *neat clump* or two of trees at *distant* intervals might not prevent a sight of the City-Hall—where it should be visible.

Mr. Sansom took his passage for Albany, "in the Paragon, or the Car of Neptune, I forget which." Lest contention should arise hereafter between the owners of these boats, as erst relative to the birth place of Homer, we beseech our philosopher to find some means of settling the point, that the literary world may not be left in such a dreadful state of embarrassing incertitude, as they now are, respecting many important events of antiquity.

"A few miles before we reached Albany, we met the Chancellor Livingston, said to be the finest boat on the river. She looked indeed very gay upon the water. We passed each other with the most animating rapidity; and the adverse motion of two such vessels, *breasting the surge*, in a narrow part of the river, made a sensible concussion of the waves from shore to shore."

Here we have a passage that detects the *philosopher*, and at once distinguishes him from the mere *tourist*. The adverse motion—the narrowness of the river cause a sensible concussion. A tourist might have given the *effects*, a philosopher alone is never contented, however profound and protracted the research, till he has developed the *causes*. Nothing is left to the uncertainty of conjecture, all is explained, the mind is full, is satisfied, has no aching void of ignorance, longing for the satisfaction of knowledge. We might quote many similar passages of philosophical discovery; but must refer our readers to the work itself. Besides, we observe that the copy-right of the book is secured, and long quotations may be considered as a violation of that right. Dr. Sansom (we beg pardon; what *ought to be* having on us the effect of *reality*;) Mr. Sansom must be one of the most happy of men, if the declaration is true:

"*Felix qui potuit causas cognoscere rerum.*"

Very unfortunately for Mr. Sansom, "there were no persons of *particular note* on this voyage."—We are, however,

informed: "on a former occasion, I had been highly diverted by a son of Chief Justice Jay—himself a limb of the law, &c."

From the expression we conclude that Mr. Sansom is a lawyer. This may be the fact, yet his fame as such might not reach us: for how can a genius, born for philosophy, sink itself so as to acquire eminence from the dull studies of the law?—Though no persons of eminence were in the steam-boat at this time, excepting our author, he has kindly informed the world—"on a former occasion—I recollect particularly Gov. Lewis, some of the Morrisises from Morrisania, and a lady of a former Governor of South Carolina." We hope Mr. Sansom will yet give us a front back or prior posthumous volume of the tour in which he was then engaged.

On the fourth of July, instead of tarrying at Albany to hear an oration, Mr. Sansom left that place, on his way to Lake Champlain, "at ten o'clock." His reason for such haste is given in a short paragraph containing these words "But I was now become earnest to reach Canada." The arts of book making are various. This paragraph, of a little more than one line, requires what the printers call two *white lines*, one above, the other below the paragraph, making four lines of a page. Thus with very little expense of brain, much may be done towards making a book. Again speaking of Gen. Wolfe's monument, we have what makes four lines in—"It is of a whitish granite, of a finer grain than usual." So throughout the volume, the words "GEN. WOLFE," "NELSON'S PILLAR," &c. &c. make three lines.

After entering Lake Champlain we are informed that "the lake gradually widened to an expanse of fifteen or twenty miles, and the sun set, *gloriously*, behind golden clouds, and mountains of *azure blue*, &c." The next morning "the morning star was *shining in*, with *perceptible reflection*, at the little window of my birth." "It is now," says Mr. Sansom, "peculiarly brilliant, and I was forcibly impressed with a sense of God's providence, for the benefit of his creature man, especially when travelling upon the waters, when his journies must be pursued by night as well as by day." Our author is hurled into a train of deep reflections on the effects produced by travelling, on the spirits, "lengthening the sense of existence," far more than the "*unvarying monotony* of home."

Mr. Sansom enters Montreal the eighth

day after leaving Philadelphia, and immediately descends the river to Quebec. The wind was unfavourable. "I was not now *in luck*, or, to speak with becoming *dignity* of a voyage upon the St. Lawrence; the wind was *right ahead*."

We cannot do otherwise than admire this philosophical tourist, on account of the great simplicity of his narrative. We have no hard names used in describing newly discovered plants; none relating to fortifications, (excepting *salient angle*; of the meaning of which our modest author confesses his ignorance,) none relative to minerals, fossils, &c. In short, the whole work discovers the author to be a man of great simplicity: and his charming anecdotes are related with great *naïveté*. Witness the following.

"At the door I bought of a little girl a penny worth of molasses candy, for which I put into her hand *two coppers*, saying I did not want any more, and she should have them *both*: but so competently had the principle of honesty, or independence, been impressed upon her memory, (under the unpromising system above mentioned,) that she ran after me, with the odd penny, crying, "Tenez Monsieur! Voici votre copper."*

While at Quebec "a vivacious" Frenchman attached himself to Mr. Sansom, from whom he received several letters of introduction, particularly one to the vivacious gentleman's "grand-mother at Machiché."

From Quebec Mr. Sansom travelled on foot many miles to somewhere, and after being absent some time, returned to Quebec.

Mr. Sansom is of opinion that the extreme cold of Canada "chills the blood," and "have a benumbing effect on the powers of the mind." We suspect the reverse to be true, judging from Mr. Sansom's book; he too declaring that the thermometer stood for some time at 100°.

On his return to Montreal, our author spent considerable time visiting chapels, nunneries, &c. and thence returned to the United States. The latter part of the volume contains a History of Canada; much of which being written with an unpardonable attention to grammar and choice of expression, we are induced to hazard a conjecture that it was composed "amidst the libraries of New-York." In the appendix we have a history of the Beaver, its mode of life, &c. extracted from we know not what author.

For the benefit of those who aspire to the writing of our language with correct-

* Stop, Sir; here's your penny.

ness and elegance, we notice a few only of Mr. Sansom's peculiarly striking expressions.

"The Hotel I put up at."

"The unvarying habitations stand in endless rows."

"We came too about ten."

"A swarm of Canadians pig together."

"For vessels to come to at."

"A Canadian of confidential appearance:" [meaning, one apparently deserving credit.]

"A long flight of steps, ending in slope after slope."

"They had like to overset."

"Streets invariably up hill and down."

"The common remains bare and uncultivated."

"From hence, from thence, &c."

"Aerial splendors of a circular rainbow."

"Church bells perpetually ringing out."

"The family were sitting down to table."

"I have been in many of them in my time."

"Churches of their own to go to."

"Both in Montreal and also in Quebec."

"Even women, of any appearance."

"New streets are laying out."

"Tired myself almost off my legs, &c."

But, to quote all the similar little graces of diction, would be to transcribe no inconsiderable portion of the volume.

We close our remarks with observing, that those who are fond of amusement will not be dissatisfied in the perusal of this work; the mind being so little loaded with novel or abstruse sentiments, that a full remembrance of whatever the volume contains, will have no sensible effect in diminishing its lightness or elasticity.

P.

ART. 5. MUSEUM OF NATURAL SCIENCES.

By C. S. RAFINESQUE, ESQ.

12. Description of the *IOXYLON POMIFERUM*, a new genus of North American Tree.

Mr. Pursh in his preface to the Flora of North America, regrets that he is unable to describe the fructification of a new tree, discovered by Capt. Lewis, and called by him the *Osage Apple* or *Arrow-wood* of the Missouri. Through the kind communications of Messrs. Bradbury, Nuttall, and Macmahon, I have been enabled to ascertain that it belongs to a new genus, which I have called *Ioxylon* in my *Florula Missurica*: This name means Arrow-wood in Greek. This genus belongs to the first natural class *Ellrogynia*, fourth natural order *Axanthia*, and to the natural family *Axarcodia*, next to the genera *Artocarpus*, *Broussonetia*, *Morus*, &c. The following definition and description is taken from my above *Florula*.

IOXYLON. Dioical. M. Flowers in globular catkins, perigone five partite, five stamens. Fem. flowers in globular and fleshy catkins, crowded, pentagonal, perigone five partite, persistent, fleshy obtuse: ovary oval, style long subulate hairy. Fruit a globular syncarpe, milky, fleshy, and covered by a thick skin formed by the perigones involving the seeds.

Ioxylon pomiferum. Arborescent, leaves alternate ovate, with a recurved thorn near the base; catkins axillary peduncled and drooping.

Description of the fertile tree. It is a small tree, from fifteen to twenty feet high, and of the thickness of four to six inches, with a very hard wood, and alternate branches. The leaves are also alternate petiolate ovate, broad, serrate, acute, smooth, and very similar to those of the Pear-tree; they are thickly set, forming a handsome foliage, every one has near its base a small recurved thorn. The flowers are on axillary

peduncles and drooping catkins of a globular shape and large size; their colour is yellowish, but the white hairy styles jutting out from the flowers give them a white and woolly appearance: the centre of the catkins is spongy and fleshy, and the whole surface is thickly covered with small sessile flowers: the perigones are pressed one by another, and have a pentagonal shape, each is divided in five deep divisions, very small, equal fleshy flattened obtuse and yellowish; in the centre of which there is a free ovary, very small and oval, from which proceeds a long subulate, hairy, acute, and white style, without any distinct stigma. The fruit which is not unsimilar to an orange in shape, size, and colour, is globular, a little depressed, fleshy, milky, and white inside, covered with a thick skin of a bright yellow, formed as in the Pine-apple by the persistent perigones adhering together, with the sutures scarcely visible, and forming a fleshy skin; the seeds are immersed in that epidermis, somewhat like those of a strawberry; they are very small, and only one is produced by each flower, being surrounded by the fleshy and altered perigone.

Observations. The male tree is similar to the fruit bearing tree; but the flowers are in smaller catkins, and not so fleshy, the stamens are jutting. This beautiful tree is highly ornamental when covered with flowers and fruits, and its manifold uses must render it quite valuable: it appears to be the representative and equivalent in North America, of the tropical Bread-tree or *Artocarpus*, to which it comes very near, by its characters. It is a native of the regions south of the Missouri, near the Arkansas river and the neighbourhood of New-Mexico: the Osage indians have planted some trees near their villages, from where it has been introduced in the gardens of St. Louis, and near Philadelphia.

in the garden of Mr. Macmahon; it grows easily from seeds, and does not appear to be delicate; but like the Box and all the trees with hard-wood, it grows very slow and lives to a great age. Its wood is exceedingly hard and tough, and preferred by the Osage to any other for making their arrows, whence it might probably become a substitute for the box-wood: it is said that they travel annually to a considerable distance south-west, to procure it from its native place. The fruit is very good to eat, the milk which it contains is sweet, and a real amylaceous emulsion, composed of a fine white diluted fecula or starch, which separates in a sediment if the milk is squeezed out and left to stand. This tree deserves therefore, by all means, to be introduced and cultivated all over the United States, for its beauty, and the uses to which the wood, fruit, and starch, might be put.

13. SECOND DECADE of undescribed American Plants.

The following ten new species of plants have all been detected by me. in the neighbourhood of New-York, in 1816 and 1817, although it is yet supposed by some, that every species of that region had been observed and described!

11. *Sp. Asclepias maritima*. Hairy, stem upright round and branched, leaves opposite, nearly petiolate, oblong, lanceolate, acute, entire ciliated, base cordate: umbels terminal upright, a pentagonal gonophore, auricles entire obtuse, cornicles incurved shorter.—Obs. Grows near Gravesend on Long-Island, in salt marshes; root perennial, height two feet: flowers purple inodore, blossoming in August, auricles pale, cornicles whitish.

12. *Atriplex mucronata*. Stem diffuse angular, leaves alternate sessile, scaly-glaucous, oblong or obovate, obtuse mucronate entire and thick: flowers monoical glomerate, male superior spiked leafy, female axillar, sepals ovate, acute, smooth, entire, and thick.—Obs. Common on the salt marshes of Long-Island, New-York, New-Jersey, &c. It has been mistaken for the *A. parula* by many botanists, and even Dr. Muhlenberg! although it is totally different. Annual, stem one foot high; blossoms in August, &c.

13. *Atriplex dioica*. Stem upright angular branched, leaves petiolate, deltoid, acute, thick, scaly, the lower opposite toothed, the upper alternate, hastated, entire: flowers dioical glomerate, male spiked naked, female unequal, sepals, deltoid, warty-crested.—Obs. Common on the sea shore, and in salt marshes on Long-Island, New-York, New-Jersey, &c. It has been mistaken for the *A. hastata*! which is totally different. Annual, rises one or two feet, the leaves are good to eat and pickle, they have sometimes a trinerved appearance, the seeds are black, lenticular, and smooth, the warts of their perigone are red, while the remainder is scaly silvery.

14. *Aristida geniculata*. Chaff slender, upright, round, base geniculated, leaves filiform, convolute striated rough-backwards, ligules ciliated; panicle racemose contracted elongated, glumes equal, keel and bristle rough, pedicel of the glumelles hairy, glumelles smooth convolute, bristle longer twisted rough, divisions very long, nearly equal.—Obs. Very common on the Hempstead plains, and on the sea-shore near Oyster Bay, Gravesend, &c. on Long-Island. Annual: next to *A. Stricta* of Michx, many stems often grow together, they rise about one foot. It blossoms in August and September.

15. *Euphorbia supina*. Prostrated, nearly dichotomous pilose, leaves opposite distichal flat nearly petiolate ovate oblong obtuse serrate, base oblique, onenerved thick, glaucous underneath: flowers axillar fasciculate nearly sessile, perianthe campanulated quadrid sepals round entire, capsuls pubescent.—Obs. Very common on the downs and the sea shores of Long-Island, north and south, also in New-Jersey, Sandy-Hook, &c. Very different from *E. maculata* and *E. thymifolia*. Annual, the stems spread flat on the ground as well as the leaves, which have often a red spot: blossoms in July, August, and September, flowers very minute flesh coloured.

16. *Euphorbia littoralis*. Prostrated nearly dichotomous pilose, leaves opposite distichal flat, short petiolate, nearly round obliquecordate, acute serrate upwards trinervate glaucous underneath: flowers axillar solitary on short peduncles, perianthe quadrid, sepals round, capsuls pubescent.—Obs. Similar to the foregoing, yet very distinct; it grows on the sandy and gravelly shores of the Hudson, from New-York to the falls: blossoms in June, July, and August; flowers small yellowish: annual. The leaves in this species and the foregoing, have transparent or pale spots of a vermicular shape, when looked through: this singularity is yet more conspicuous in another new species with thinner leaves, which I have found near Glen's falls, and called accordingly *E. vermiculata*. They all belong to the sub-genus (or perhaps genus!) *Chamaesyce*, which has stipuls, axillar flowers, and a campanulated four cleft perianthe.

17. *Coralorhiza maculata*. Roots branched palmate articulate, stem round, sheaths acute; raceme loose, flowers drooping, sepals lanceolate nearly obtuse, labellum recurved elliptic white, red spotted, auriculated on each side of the base, toothed and obtuse at the apex.—Obs. The genus *Coralorhiza* has been established by Brown, in the second edition of the Hortus Kewensis: it is very different from *Cymbidium*, and its habit is very peculiar, owing to the branched shape of the fleshy roots and the pedunculated flowers without bracteas. Three or four species of this genus grow in the United States, all different from the European species. This grows in the shady woods of Long-Island near Flatbush, Flushing, Oyster-

bay, &c: it blossoms in July and August, the whole plant is yellowish, size about one foot.

18. *Panicum uniflorum*. Chaff smooth, leaves ovate lanceolate pubescent, striated above, pale underneath, neck bearded, sheaths striated pilose: a single terminal flower pedunculated upright, valves smooth, obtuse.—Obs. Found in woods near Flatbush, Long-Island. Annual. Size half a foot.

19. *Polygonum arenarium*. Smooth, stem upright round flexuose striated branched, branches slender erect; leaves linear oblong acute serrulate, sheaths red brown lacerated; flowers axillar solitary nearly sessile erect; seeds trigone.—Obs. It grows on the downs and the sandy shores of Long-Island, Sandy Hook, &c: next to *P. tenue* of Michaux, yet very different. It belongs to the real genus *Polygonum*, having the perigone five parted, a little unequal, two divisions inside, eight stamens, three styles, &c. Annual, Size about a foot, flowers small, greenish, blossoming in July and August; a rare species.

20. *Scutellaria nemorosa*. Pubescent, stem and branches straight, leaves on short petioles ovate rhomboidal nearly acute, serrate crenate, ciliolate, base entire acute; racemes nearly distichal, bracteas ovate entire.—Obs. A fine rare plant growing in woods near Flatbush Long-Island. Stem from one to two feet high, square, leaves large and nerved, flowers blue, large, blossoming in June and July, calix entire, with a long appendage, seeds black and granulated. Perennial.

14. FIRST DECADE of new North-American Fishes.

1. Sp. *Anguilla chrisypa*. Jaws obtuse, the lower rather longer, head depressed; body acute posteriorly olivaceous brown as well as the head and fins, except the sides of the head the breast and anal fins which are of a gilt yellow, lateral line beginning before the gill, and a little ascending, pectoral fins oboval, dorsal fin beginning near the anal fin, tail very obtuse.—Obs. Vulgar names Gold-Eel, Silver-Eel, Lake-Eel. Gold breast, &c. Found in lakes George, Champlain, &c. the Hudson above the falls; length from two to five feet, very good food; it has tubular nostrils and very small eyes, the head is attenuated, and one seventh of total length.

2. Sp. *Anguilla blephura*. Jaws very obtuse, the lower longer, no lateral line, body obtuse posteriorly, tail obtuse and ciliated, pectoral fins oval, dorsal fin beginning halfway between them and the anal fin, general colour, olivaceous above, and whitish beneath.—Obs. A common species on the south shores of Long-Island, therefore maritime, affording indifferent food; vulgar name Sand-Eel, length about two feet, head one seventh of total length, eyes rather large, nostrils not tubular. The specific name means ciliated tail. These two species of Eels appear different from all the new species lately described by Mr. Lesueur, under the old

name of *Murena*, which belongs properly to a very different genus without pectoral fins.

3. Sp. *Salmo Pallidus*. Lower jaw much longer, body cylindrical gray crowded with irregular rounded pale yellowish spots, gills silvery, lateral line ascending at the base, tail forked brownish, dorsal fin brown with twelve rays, adipose fin olivaceous, lower fins white, the anal with twelve rays.—Obs. vulgar names Salmon-trout, White-trout, Lake-trout, &c. Length from two to four feet, it affords a delicious food, the flesh is redish. In Lake George, Lake Champlain, and other lakes: it does not ascend the brooks.

4. Sp. *Bodianus rupestris*. Lower jaw much longer, gill-covers with two flat and short thorns, head and fins gilt, body gilt-brown, with many parallel rows of black spots under the lateral line, which follows the curve of the back, and is a little ascending at the base, tail entire, dorsal fin with twenty rays whereof ten are spinescent.—Obs. Its vulgar name is Rock bass, and in Canada *Crapet*. It is found in all the lakes of New-York, Vermont, Canada, &c. affording a good food. Shape elliptic thick, teeth small, eyes and scales large, length about one foot, anal fin with fourteen rays, whereof six are spinescent, thoracic fins with one and five rays, pectoral fins with fourteen rays, caudal fin with twenty. It is a permanent fish living generally in rocky bottoms.

5. Sp. *Bodianus Achigan*. Lower jaw much longer, gill-covers with two flat and short thorns, lateral line nearly straight, base ascending diagonal; blackish with round scattered fulvous spots, belly gray, fins brown, the dorsal depressed in the middle and with twenty-five rays, whereof ten are spinescent, tail lunulated, with a gray edge.—Obs. vulgar names in the United States Black-bass, Lake-bass, Big-bass, Oswego bass, Spotted-bass, &c. and in Canada *Achigan* or *Achigan verd* or *Achigan noir*; but many species are probably blended under those names; this is probably the *Achigan* of Charlevoix. It is a fine fish, from one to three feet long, and weighing sometimes eight to twelve pounds, affording a good food, &c. It is found in all the large lakes of New-York and Canada. It has many rows of small teeth, and is voracious: eyes blue, iris gilt brown; anal fin with fifteen rays, whereof three are spinescent and short; pectoral fins fulvous dotted of brown at the base, and with fifteen rays, thoracic fins with six rays whereof the first is spinescent, caudal fins with twenty rays. This species and the foregoing have six branchial rays, and the gill-covers are composed of four pieces, all scaly except the second. Body more cylindrical than in the foregoing.

6. Sp. *Cyprinus bullaris*. Body rather cylindrical, silvery, back olivaceous brown, scales large, lower lip shorter, iris and gill cover gilt, lateral line ascending at the base, tail forked, fin yellowish dorsal fin central, with nine rays as well as the anal.—Obs. In the Fishkill and other streams falling in the Hudson, vulgar name Wind-fish, because it

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produces a bubble whenever it comes near the surface of the water; good for food, length from six to twelve inches.

7. Sp. *Cyprinus hemiplus*. Lower lip longer, body oblong silvery with gilt shades, back and top of the head brown, lateral line curved downwards, a second half line above it straight and reaching the dorsal fin; all the fins olivaceous tipped with brown, tail forked, the dorsal fin nearer the tail, with nine rays, the anal falcated with fourteen rays.—Obs. Length from three to six inches, common in Lake-George, Saratoga-lake, &c. vulgar names Shiner or Minny, these names are common to many species.

8. Sp. *Cyprinus vittatus*. Lips black, the lower shorter, body elongated silvery, back olivaceous, a redish spot on the head, a broad, stripe accompanying the lateral line, brown with purple shades, lateral line a little ascending at the base; tail forked, fins olivaceous, the dorsal nearer the tail, with ten rays as well as the anal.—Obs. Found in the Hudson above the falls, vulgar name Mudfish, length from two to four inches.

9. Sp. *Cyprinus megalops*. Lips equal thick,

body oblong, silvery, with large scales, back olivaceous, head brownish, eyes large, iris gilt, lateral line a little curved downwards, tail forked, fins olivaceous, the dorsal in the middle with nine rays, the first very short, anal fin whitish long with ten rays.—Obs. vulgar name Chub or Big-eyes, very good food, length from eight to twelve inches; in the Hudson above the falls.

10. Sp. *Cyprinus melanurus*. Lips equal thick, body silvery, head and back gilt, lateral line ascending at the base, tail forked, and blackish, fins gilt, the dorsal in the middle with nine rays, the first very short, anal with ten rays.—Found with the foregoing, smaller, vulgar name Gold-shiner, or Gold-chub. More than eighty species of the genus *Cyprinus* of Linneus exist in North America; several of which must however form the new genera *Catostomus*, *Notropis*, *Cheilobus*, *Miniculus*, &c.; but forty or fifty species will yet remain in the real genus *Cyprinus*, which must therefore be divided in sections, derived from the length of the jaws or lips, the direction of the lateral line, the situation of the dorsal fin, &c.

ART. 6. TRANSACTIONS OF LEARNED SOCIETIES.

NEW-YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Sitting of Nov. 11. 1817.

A COMMUNICATION was laid before the Society by the President from C. Schultz, Esq. of Marietta, Ohio, on the subject of exploring for the skeleton of the Mammoth, with an estimate of the probable expense, which was referred to the Zoological committee, professor Mitchill, Chairman.

Professor Mitchill presented a letter from Major Roberdeau, honorary member of the Society, accompanied with the skin of a red beaver, and another called a mink, which he rather supposed was a smaller species of the *martin*; both of which are animals of Lake Superior, dressed and decorated, to serve for tobacco pouches, by the squaws at the head of Lake Huron. The colour of the Beaver is quite uncommon, but not owing to its youth, as the teeth and feet of the animal denote the contrary.

Major R. also presented a Chart of Lake Champlain, the most accurate, probably, existing: the soundings marked upon it, being marked from the sailing chart of the ship *Confiance*, after her capture by Com. M'Donough, 11th Oct. 1814, and which are presumed to be very correct. This chart, on a very extensive scale, is very neatly copied by *Cadet Delafield*, of the military academy of West Point, and is highly creditable to

his talents. The thanks of the Society were voted to this young gentleman for this evidence of his attention to illustrate the topographical department of the institution.

A letter was received from Samuel Jones, Esq. of Queens county, Long-Island, a member of the Society, inclosing notes on the Discourse delivered by the Hon. De Witt Clinton before the society, 6th Dec. 1811, which was read, and this curious and interesting document was referred to the committee on publications.

A letter from Doctor Isaac Ball to the Rev. Doctor J. H. Livingston, with his answer, was read on the subject of the Babylonian Bricks brought to this country by Capt. Austin; one of which is deposited in the Cabinet of Nat. History. The observations of the writer controvert the opinion generally entertained, that the characters are hieroglyphical.

A resolution of thanks was voted to the Rev. Mr. Schaeffer, minister of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in this city, and member of the Society, for the appropriate discourse, delivered by him in St. Paul's Church on Friday the 31st Oct. in commemoration of the *Third Centennial Anniversary of the Reformation*, and the favour of a copy for publication was requested.

A large and valuable collection of books relating to American History and nautical charts, imported for the Society, was

laid on the table by Doctor John W. Francis, Librarian, together with several volumes presented to the Society, which were ordered to be inscribed and recorded, with the names of the liberal donors, in the book of donations.

The library of the Society is increasing very rapidly in number and value, and contains, in all probability, a larger collection of books, pamphlets, &c. on the subject of American History, than is to be found in any other public collection in the U. States. No expense is spared to procure from Europe the earliest editions of voyages, travels, histories, and documents which concern this country; and most of the publications in the U. States are to be found in its archives.

A portrait of the Hon. Gouverneur Morris, late president of the Society, taken by Ames of Albany, was presented by the Hon. Stephen Van Rensselaer of that city.

A portrait of the Hon. John Jay, taken by Wright, in 1786, was presented by the Recording Secretary.

The skin of a young Anaconda, from Demarara, was presented by Doctor Lyman Spalding in the name of his friend Mr. Henry P. Fleishman.

Valuable specimens of Mineralogy were presented by professor Cleveland, of Massachusetts, by John H. Steele, Esq. of Saratoga, and by Jesse Booth, Esq. of Walkill, Orange County, together with an Indian Ax of secondary Trap, and a singular mass of limestone inclosing wood and sand stone.

LITERARY AND PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY OF NEW-YORK.

Sitting of Nov. 13, 1817.

A communication from Dr. Mitchill was read, stating that he had received from Professor Blumenbach, of Göttingen, several tracts and volumes as a donation to the Library.

The recording Secretary read a letter addressed to Dr. Francis, from D. B. Warden, Esq. of Paris, acknowledging the honour he had received in being chosen a foreign associate of the Society. Several valuable donations were also acknowledged from Dr. Warden, through the hands of Dr. Francis.

A communication from the President, De Witt Clinton, L. L. D. entitled a "Memoir on the Antiquities of the western parts of the State of New-York," addressed to the Hon. S. L. Mitchill, a vice-president of the Society, and professor of natural history in the University of New-York, was read. This elaborate and in-

teresting paper was accompanied with numerous specimens illustrative of the arts and antiquities of the people who inhabited that district of country in former times. We insert the concluding paragraph of this paper, hoping that the Society will shortly favour us with the whole in their second volume of transactions, now arranging for publication.

"The Iroquois formerly lived, according to their tradition, on the north side of the lakes: when they migrated to their present country, they extirpated the people who occupied it: and after the European settlement of America, the confederates destroyed the Eries, who lived on the south side of lake Erie. Whether the nation which possessed our western country before the Iroquois had erected those fortifications to protect them against their invaders, or whether they were made by anterior inhabitants, are mysteries which cannot be penetrated by human sagacity. Nor can we pretend to decide whether the Eries, or their predecessors, raised the works of defence in their territory. But we are persuaded that enough has been said to demonstrate the existence of a vast population settled in towns, defended by forts, cultivating agriculture, and more advanced in civilization than the nations which have inhabited the same countries since the European discovery."

The President also laid before the Society a communication, in the form of a letter, addressed to Joseph Ellicot, Esq. of Genesee county, from De Witt Clinton, giving an account of the flux and reflux of the waters of the great lakes of the State of New-York.

The President also communicated a paper describing certain wrought stones found two feet under ground in the town of Deerfield, in the county of Oneida. These stones seem to have been used as personal ornaments by a race of people, who, at a remote period, inhabited this place, as no unwrought stones of that kind have been discovered in Oneida county, and the Iroquois do not decorate themselves in that manner, nor were they at any known period possessed of similar ornaments.

Mr. C. S. Rafinesque delivered to the Society a paper entitled a "Botanical Disquisition on ten native species of grape vines from the State of New-York." These were as denominated by the author, 1. *Vitis labrusca*, the fox grape: 2. *V. hyematis*, the winter grape: 3. *V. arachnoidea*, spider grape: 4. *V. fragrans*, sweet grape: 5. *V. lobata*, lobed

grape: 6. *V. montana*, mountain grape: 7. *V. membranacea*, thin leaf grape: 8. *V. rugosa*, rough grape: 9. *V. denticulata*, field grape: 10. *V. mucronata*, blue grape. Whereupon the several papers were referred to the council.

Mr. C. A. Busby, architect and engineer, recently elected a member of this Society, produced a model and description of a water-wheel invented by himself, since his arrival in this country, of a very useful and ingenious construction, applicable to steam-boats, horse-boats, and mills.

LYCEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY.

Sitting of October 20, 1817.

Mr. Rafinesque made a Report on three reptiles referred to him at the last meeting, two of which he described as new, under the names of *Testudo Hemiptropus* a tortoise from Honduras, and *Prodiplus Fuscatus*, a brown adder from Chatham, New-York.

Dr. Mitchill read a letter from Dr. Whelpley of Morristown, New-Jersey, on the case of a child who had voided from the intestines several crustaceous animals of the order of *Myriapoda*; accompanied by specimens, which were referred to a select committee.

Alderman Akerly presented specimens of *Mytilus* and the *Lepas Anatifera*, taken from the bottom of a vessel, and stated that he had observed on the same vessel *Cancer Linearis* and *Doris Papillosa*, not before known to inhabit our waters.

Mr. Clark presented the foetus of a Porpoise from the E. Indies.

Dr. J. B. Stevenson offered several specimens of Slate and Sandstone, with a view of illustrating the peculiar geological features of the mountainous range, known by the name of the Pallisadoes, on the opposite or western shore of the Hudson.

Mr. Torrey presented to the Society four cases, containing several hundred species of Insects, chiefly American, and in a high state of preservation.

November 3.

Mr. Jesse Booth, of Ulster Co. N. Y. presented, through Mr. Torrey, specimens of Breccia with shells, and of Ma-

drepores in flint from the same County.

Mr. Clements offered to the Society specimens from the vicinity of Philadelphia, consisting of marbles, silex with shells, yellow ochre, and chromate of iron; also of yellow ochre from the neighbourhood of New-York.

He also presented a specimen in a high state of preservation of the *Monoculus Polyphemus* of Linnæus, or the Horse-shoe crab.

Mr. J. Titus, through Dr. Eddy, made a donation to the Society of two perfect and entire skeletons, one belonging to the Genus *Ardea*, and the other of the *Phasianus Gallus*.

A communication from Mr. Brace, a Corr. Member, was read by Mr. Pearce, on the nature and habits of the Cut-worm.

November 10.

Mr. Torrey reported that the *Terra Columbiana*, resembling the *T. Sienna* of Europe, presented at the last sitting by Mr. Clements, proved to be an analysis on argillaceous earth, with a considerable portion of oxyde of iron, constituting what is usually denominated an Ochre.

Mr. Torrey reported on the specimens from Patterson, N. Jersey, presented by Dr. Townsend. The one supposed by some to have been Chalcedony, he had ascertained to be Prehnite. This locality is not noticed in the late work of Cleaveland.

The President presented two bottles of mineral waters from springs in Tioga Co. N. Y.; also several remarkable fossil madrepores, and tubipores, from the same County.

Mr. Clements read a highly interesting and important paper on the *Œstrus ovis* of Lin. describing it in its various states, accompanied by specimens in all its forms, and exhibiting a recent head of the sheep, showing the effects produced by its attacks on the frontal and maxillary sinuses, &c.

Mr. Rafinesque read a memoir on the *Xanthium maculatum*, a N. Sp.

The President, Dr. Mitchill, offered a specimen of the common *Sepia* of our coast, accompanied by a demonstration of its character.

ART. 7. LITERARY AND PHILOSOPHICAL INTELLIGENCE.

ENGLAND.

A NEW dramatic poem, from Mr. Coleridge, under the title of *Zapolya*,

is announced as in the press, and soon to appear.

Sir GEORGE CAYLEY has proposed a

public subscription for the purpose of ascertaining how far the principle of balloons, supporting heavy burdens in the air, may be made useful as a medium of conveyance.

Mr. J. TATUM has found, from recent experiments, that vegetables, like animals, convert the oxygen of the atmosphere into carbonic acid gas; and that those very gases which are fatal to animals are equally so to vegetables. By observations on the effects of fruits, flowers, new-cut grass, &c. on the atmosphere, he has found that in most cases the whole of the oxygen was converted into carbonic acid gas in a few days.

FRANCE.

M. CHAMPOLLION FIGEAC has published the inedited Letters of Fontenelle from MSS. in the library of Grenoble. A relation of that celebrated writer lately died in the department of the Orne, leaving to his son some valuable manuscripts, among which is a work by Fontenelle, and a considerable collection of Memoirs and Letters of Marshal Catinat, who was uncle to the deceased.

Among the effects of the late eminent astronomer, M. Messier, sold after his death, was a map exhibiting a curious specimen of Chinese geography. It was engraved at Pekin about the beginning of the last century, and comprises that part of Asia situated between 35 and 55 degrees of north latitude and 31 and 33 degrees of longitude. It is fourteen feet long and six wide; the characters to the north of the great wall of China are Tartar Mongol, and those to the south of the wall Chinese. The map was sent from Pekin by some Jesuit missionaries, and conveyed by Mr. Lange to Petersburg in 1720.

ITALY.

M. MICHELE LEONI has lately translated Goldsmith's *Traveller* into Italian verse. In the preface to this version, which was published at Florence, the translator endeavours to vindicate Italy against what he terms the prejudices of the British poet.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

From a list lately published of the instructors and officers of the University of Cambridge, it appears that they consist of the president, twenty professors, two tutors, a librarian and assistant librarian, registrar, five proctors, a teacher of the French and Spanish languages, a private teacher of the mathematics, &c.

George Ticknor, Esq. now in Europe, has been appointed professor of the French and Spanish languages and literature in the University of Cambridge.

The Rev. Joshua Bates, of Dedham, Mass. has been appointed president of Middlebury College, Vermont; and Joel H. Linsley, Esq. professor of the learned languages in the same institution.

The Rev. E. T. Fitch has been appointed Professor of Divinity in Yale College, New-Haven.

Benjamin Allen, L. L. D. formerly a professor in Union College, Schenectady, and lately principal of the Albany Academy, has opened a select and private Classical School at Hyde Park, Dutchess County, New-York. This institution is designed to unite with a classical and English education, the modern languages. The classical course will comprise the Latin and Greek languages, ancient history, and mythology, Roman and Grecian antiquities. The English course will include English Grammar, elocution, elements of history, rhetoric, geography, penmanship, mathematics, and the outlines of natural philosophy. Of the modern languages, the French, Spanish, and Italian, will be taught. The pupils of the institution will be members of the principal's family, and under his immediate care and government. The high and deserved reputation of Dr. Allen give an importance to this establishment.

We understand that Mr. George Frederic Busby, late editor of the London *CRITICAL REVIEW*, and son of Dr. Busby, the well known translator of Lucretius, intends giving, in the course of the ensuing month, a series of PUBLIC LECTURES in New-York, on poetical literature. Mr. Busby has but recently arrived in this country.

ART. 3. RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Methodist Conference.

AT the 74th Annual Conference of the people called Methodists, nearly 300 Preachers from different parts of the

United Kingdom, were present. The most cordial affection and unanimity prevailed amongst them; and they had the satisfaction to find that, during the last year, the work of God had generally prospered in their Societies, both at

home and abroad. Thirty-six young men having their probation of four years, were received into full connexion. The sight of such a number of men, in the prime of life, possessing genuine piety, fervent zeal, and considerable learning, devoting themselves to the work of the Ministry, and solemnly set apart for the service of God, was deeply effecting. The President, the Rev. John Gaulter, with his usual zeal and activity, dispatched the business which came under consideration with such promptitude and ability, that the Conference concluded at an earlier period, than it had for many preceding years. On the following day the Preachers who were present received the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper from the hands of the President, assisted by some of the senior brethren. The several Preachings, during the whole time of the Conference, were attended by crowded congregations; and the powerful and impressive Sermons which were delivered, not only commanded deep and silent attention, but excited the most lively feelings of devotion, and elevated the Soul to a blessed participation of those pleasures which are at God's right hand for evermore. Eight additional Missionaries are to be sent to the East Indies, Ceylon, India, and other parts of the world the ensuing year.

The number of Travelling Preachers is as follows:

In England,	585
Wales,	46
Scotland,	27
Ireland,	104
Isle of Man,	5
Norman Isles,	7
On Foreign Missions in Asia, Africa, the West-Indies, British America, Newfoundland, &c.	98

Total 872

Besides, Supernumeraries, 77

The total number of members in Great Britain is	193,685
In the West-Indies, Nova-Scotia, and the other Missions,	22,397
Total	216,582

Increase in Great Britain,	2,005
Foreign Missions,	1,800
Total increase	3,805

RUSSIA.

A college for teaching the Oriental language has been established at St. Petersburg; and the Emperor Alexander is a subscriber to a new Russian religious newspaper, called the Messenger of Zion.

FRANCE.

A periodical work is about to commence at Paris with the title of *The French Israelite*, to contain:—1. Translations of select portions of the Bible, extracts from works of Jewish theology, biographical accounts of doctors of the law, and other eminent Israelites: 2. accounts of events and facts interesting to the Jews, and analyses of works concerning their civil and moral situation: 3. researches into the history, antiquities, laws, and literature of the Jewish people.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

The General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church, composed of Delegates from Religious Congregations in the States of New-York and New-Jersey, assembled at Kingston, Ulster County, in October last. The occasion of this meeting is understood to have been in reference to the Theological School connected with Queen's College, at New Brunswick. The decision of the Synod was unanimously in favour of the continuance of this connexion.

The Hampshire Bible Society held its Anniversary Meeting at Northampton, on the 15th October. It appears from the report of the Directors the receipts for the last year amounted to \$1096 70; of which \$400 had been paid over to the American Bible Society. The number of Bibles purchased by the Society within the year was 800, of which 506 had been distributed.

The following Societies, (says the Christian Herald,) have lately become auxiliary to the National Institution: viz.

'The Bible Society of Fredericksburgh,' (Va.), Rev. E. C. McGuire, Cor. Sec'y.

'The Vermont B. S.'

'The Aux. B. S. of Ashville,' (N. C.), Francis H. Porter, Cor. Secretary.

'The B. S. of Columbia County,' (N. Y.), Rev. James Strong, Secretary.

'The Female B. S. of Wilkesbarre,' (Pa.), Mrs. Mary Bowman, Secretary.

'The Female B. S. of Dutchess County,' (N. Y.), (formerly the B. S. of America;) become auxiliary 1st Oct. 1817—

Mrs. Sally Hyde, Principal; Mrs. Elizabeth Reynolds, Secretary.

The above additions make the number of Auxiliaries known—one hundred and eighteen.

The Rev. Reuben Taylor has been in-

stalled Pastor of the Church and Society in Trumbull, Conn.

The Rev. Messrs. Wheelock and Colman, Missionaries, have sailed from Boston in the ship Independence, for Calcutta.

ART. 9. POETRY.

For the American Monthly Magazine.

A POET'S RAMBLE.

A FRAGMENT.

BY GEORGE FREDERICK BUSBY.

IN that sweet season of the infant year,
When clouds of gold o'erhang the brow of eve,
When all the woods their verdant livery wear,
And glancing waves the green reflections give;
When nature's charms in full perfection live,
And soft Favonius from his rosy wing
Sheds perfumes which the sense to joy revive,
And in full chorus of the breathing spring,
From every forest-shade the plumed nations sing:

When vernal beauty gladdens the green plains,
And smiling splendour dwells on nature's face,
When in the air a living spirit reigns,
Oft would my steps the arborous labyrinth trace
Of some umbrageous glade, or in the chace
Of murmuring bee, through fields of hyacinth roam,
And mark the wild deer, that with agile grace
Bounded close by me to his leafy dome—
All-heedless of the dews that called my footsteps home:

Oft on some mountain's purple summit raised,
To view declining Phœbus leave the sky,
On every side in soft delight I gazed,
While tears of pensive rapture dimm'd mine eye.
"Thus, thus," I said, "in fields of glory die
The Patriot-brave, who strive to break the chain
That bound their country's soul to slavery—
Oh, while on earth a sense of worth remain,
Cherished their names shall be, and sacred from all stain.

"The noble few in Pylæ's pass who stemmed
The shrinking millions of the Persian lord,
And wrapped his camp in flames, fell not till hemm'd
By circling nations—till their limbs were gored
In horrid strife—when all with one accord,
For one last effort rousing all their heat,
In phalanx'd order fierce destruction poured,
Each stretched a hundred Persians at his feet,
And Asia's monarch feared for his imperial seat.

"But fainting nature now refus'd to wield
The ponderous sword, or hurl the flying spear;

All-useless from their arms the battered shield
Reclined—when from the Thermian hills appear

The midnight bands—and on the deafened ear
Burst the barbaric shout—on, on they pour—
The Grecians saw, but no debasing fear
Oppress'd their hearts in that tremendous hour;
Undaunted—still serene—they saw the tempest pour—

"The shades of death were on them—and they fell,
Buried in carnage that their valour made—
Thessalia's plains the richest crimson drank
That e'er in human veins hath proudly played,
Sublimed courage never was displayed;
Admiring ages eternize their name,
And the sweet muse in deathless numbers bade
The dirgeful harp their matchless worth proclaim—
Their mighty deeds record—record the despot's shame.

"Yet doubly glorious was that strenuous day,
With double laurels crown'd; the rising sun
Beheld the Asian fleets, in proud array,
Swarm o'er the shaded ocean; when begun
(Ere Phœbus yet his noontide race had run)
To Doric measures, and the martial strain
Of sacred pœan (both combined in one
Harmonious melody) the naval train
Of stedfast Greece to plough the wide cerulean plain.

"True—they were few—but they were led by those
With whom to fear a greater wonder seem'd
Than aught imagination can disclose,
Or bard hath sung, or prophet ever dreamed:
Full to the air their waving pennants streamed;
Broad to the sun their brazen bucklers blaz'd,
Their helmets glisten'd, and their lances gleam'd.
Awed, panic-struck, the mute barbarians gaz'd,
Waiting the stern attack, with eyes by terror glazed.

"And now the clamours of the battle swell,
Eubœa's shores the dread alarms resound;
On every side the iron tempest fell—
The light was hid; and o'er the blue profound
Death reign'd in every shape, and stalk'd around;
Nor did the havoc or the slaughter cease,
Till not a Persian bark entire was found;
Till Victory garlanded the brows of Greece—
And yielded to her sway the empire of the seas.

"Such were the deeds that round th' admiring world
Bore the proud tidings of Hellenic fame:
Where'er Achaia's standard was unfurl'd
The gladden'd nations hail'd with loud acclaim
The fostering glories of her conquering name.
For not alone in arms was she renown'd—
With her the heaven-descended muses came;
And where the cords of slavery she unbound,
She pour'd with freedom's light, the light of art around."

Thus would I muse upon the glorious days
Of ancient fame, and my quick pulse would beat
To livelier measures, while I told their praise,
The mountain-echoes would the sound repeat,
And to my ear restore them. From my seat
Among the rocks, I viewed the gray-rob'd heaven;
For now the westering sun had gone to greet
Atlantic skies, and virgin-vested Even
A soft and blending tint to all the scene had given.

And from behind her cloudy rampart rose
The argent empress of the starry host;
Though day's fierce lord intenser lustre shows,
Her silvery tints delight my soul the most.
Calm meditation every sense engross'd,
Thoughts of the days that *were*—dear, happy hours,
Ere life its keener edge of bliss had lost—
When carelessly I wander'd mid the bowers
Of blameless infancy, and cropped their tender flowers.

And when the mild sultana of the night
Climbed her high arch of noon, and from her car
The pure effulgence of her pearly light
Stream'd o'er the heavens, and dimm'd each weeping star,
(Weeping to see itself eclipsed) and far
In her white beams the dark-green foliage shone,
And sparkling rivers o'er their beds of spar
Rolled their transparent waves—to rove alone
Was my supreme delight—nor have I ever known

A purer joy than such enchanting scenes
Yield my transported heart; when all is still,
When soothing quietness the breast serenes,
And the soft murmurs of a brawling rill,
Gurgling beside some green and moonlight hill,
Makes music to the ear—and whispering winds
The atmosphere with dewy fragrance fill—
Oh! contemplation every instant finds
Some new attraction still for elevated minds:—

Yon heavens that clasp in their cerulean arms
Millions of orbs, that with bright beauty grace
The ethereal depths, possess superior charms
To all the brightest fancy e'er could trace:
There, thrond beyond the bounds of time and place,
Dwells that Almighty Power, whose high decrees
The universe fulfils—whose mandates chase
The breath of life—or chain the dire disease—
Heave all the waves in storms, or hush the raging seas!

The fragile flower that by yon river-bank
Folds its fine leaves, and droops its delicate head,
Holds in reflection's eye a prouder rank
Than stateliest domes and palaces that spread
Th' encumber'd earth: and where doth beauty shed
So rich a bloom as in the rose's blush?
And to what higher source can man be led
Of majesty, than where broad cataracts gush
Sublime from Alpine heights, and through the vallies rush?

Regions of wonder! where La Plata leads
Round half the globe his swift and boundless streams;
And rock-ribbed Andes lift their Titan-heads,
And catch the eastern sun's scarce-slanting beams,
While yet in Europe's climes his last ray gleams;
And mountain-oceans, basen'd high in air,
And vast millenian shades, the grand extremes
Of nature's varied sovereignty, declare
The Mighty Hand that form'd, that rear'd, and plac'd them there!

How deep the silence! pure the soft night-air!
Day's sultriness is gone, and in its stead
The Cynthian freshness and the dews repair—
The cares and clamours of the world are fled—

This grassy bank shall be my sylvan bed:
Here will I lie, and con bewitching themes,
While fragrant airs delicious coolness shed.

For the American Monthly Magazine.

To a Stone from the Island of the "Lady of the Lake,"
presented by a friend who had visited Loch Katrine.

Thou little brown stone, oh, what hast thou seen,
Since the flood roll'd thee up on your island so green;

How many vast ages have travell'd thee o'er,
Like wave, after wave, on thy lake-girded shore?
How alter'd are all things, while thou art alone
Unalter'd, unchang'd, the same little brown stone!
How many huge trees have sprung where you lay,

Have grown up, and flourish'd, and moulder'd away;

How long was the time, when the deer's tread alone

Tore the branches away which thy lake had o'er-grown,

When the eagle alone woke the echo that slept
On the mountains around which thy paradise kept.
Ah, what hast thou seen since man swayed thy shore?

Saw'st thou the first boat which that plunderer bore?

And well hast thou mark'd every change he has made

Since he first drove thy deer from their far-spreading shade?

Wast thou there when fair Ellen first walk'd on thy shore?

Didst thou see the proud bark as the pine flag they bore?

Didst thou hear the loud shout of the Saxon afar,
And saw'st thou thy clan as they fell in the war?
Or has thy fair lake never heard the war cry,
Sounding shrill as the bird of thy own native sky?

Is it fiction alone that endears thee to us?
 If Scott had not sung should we feel toward thee
 thus?
 No, thou little brown stone, alone on thy shore
 Thou still would'st have listen'd to Loch Katrine's
 roar;
 Unheeded thy heath-bell might bloom on thy isle,
 And thy lakelet, unlov'd, in the sun-beams might
 smile,
 And the cushat-dove's notes, as in days that are
 past,
 Sound back to the moss-rocks the deer-hunter's
 blast.
 How great is thy pow'r, then, thou bard of the
 North,
 When thou giv'st to a pebble a diamond's worth;
 When a little brown stone from Loch Katrine's
 shore
 Is more valued by us than Peruvian ore.

J. P. B.

For the American Monthly Magazine.

TO THE WESTERN MUMMY.

O stranger, whose repose profound
 These later ages dare to break,
 And call thee from beneath the ground
 Ere nature did thy slumber shake!

What wonders of the secret earth
 Thy lip, too silent, might reveal!
 Of tribes round whose mysterious birth
 A thousand envious ages wheel!

Thy race by savage war o'errun,
 Sunk down, their very name forgot;
 But ere those fearful times begun,
 Perhaps, in this sequester'd spot,

By friendship's hand thine eyelids clos'd,
 By friendship's hand the turf was laid—
 And friendship here perhaps repos'd
 With moonlight vigils in the shade.

The stars have run their nightly round,
 The sun look'd out and pass'd his way,
 And many a season o'er the ground
 Has trod where thou so softly lay.

And wilt thou not one moment raise
 Thy weary head, awhile to see
 The later sports of earthly days,
 How like what once enchanted thee.

Thy name, thy date, thy life declare—
 Perhaps a queen whose feathery band
 A thousand maids have sigh'd to wear,
 The brightest in thy beauteous land.

Perhaps a Helen, from whose eye
 Love kindled up the flames of war—
 Ah me! do thus thy graces lie
 A faded phantom, and no more!

(O! not like thee would I remain,
 But o'er the earth my ashes strew,
 And in some rising bud regain
 The freshness that my childhood knew.)

But, has thy soul, O maid! so long
 Around this mournful relic dwelt?
 Or burst away with pinion strong,
 And at the foot of mercy knelt?

Or has it in some distant clime
 With curious eye unsated stray'd,
 And down the winding stream of time
 On ev'ry changeful current play'd?

Or lock'd in everlasting sleep
 Must we thy heart extinct deplore?
 Thy fancy lost in darkness weep,
 And sigh for her who feels no more?

Or exil'd to some humbler sphere
 In yonder wood-dove dost thou dwell,
 And murmuring in the stranger's ear,
 Thy tender melancholy tell?

Whoe'er thou beest, thy sad remains
 Shall from the muse a tear demand,
 Who, wandering on these western plains,
 Looks fondly to a distant land.

M. C.

ART. 10. DRAMATIC CENSOR.

NEW-YORK THEATRE.

SINCE the departure of Mr. Incledon, who contributed so much to the pleasure of the last month, the lovers of musick and the drama have been regaled with a succession of rich entertainments, by Mr. Phillips, another melodist of high reputation, who has recently come among us. This gentleman has, we believe, been greeted with a more unqualified approbation than any person of his profession who has ever appeared on our boards. He sings with an accuracy that proves his science, and a taste and expression that go straight to the heart. His voice is fine, though by no means

perfect; but it has been so well cultivated, and is subjected to such admirable control, that its defects are forgotten in witnessing the happy skill with which it is managed. It is sweet and clear and silver-toned, but wants, to our ear, volume, and that bold and fine swell which are requisite to the appropriate expression of energetic feeling. It has, undoubtedly, much variety and pathos; and

With many a winding bout
 Of linked sweetness long drawn out,

satisfies the expectation of the most cultivated ear, in all those songs, of which the sentiment is of a sorrowful and ten-

der kind; but in those songs, which are distinguished by eloquence of thought and that ardour of feeling that is kindled by a nice sense of right and wrong—which turn upon the great subjects of a nation's welfare, and are addressed to the ears of patriot citizens, a person of much enthusiasm and a somewhat martial imagination, would easily outstrip in his expectations, the utmost powers of Mr. Phillips' voice. Nevertheless, it is a delight to hear him; and there is one excellence, in which we have never known his equal—that is, distinctness of utterance. As an actor, Mr. Phillips holds a respectable rank; and his *Seraskier*, *Belino* and *Orlando*, are pleasing exhibitions of histrionic talents.

In regard to the permanent members of the Thespian corps, little new is to be said. Mrs. Barnes has, on some occasions, displayed fine talents before very thin houses; Miss Johnson has, we think, improved, both in singing and acting, and is gaining upon the good opinion of the audience; and Mrs. Baldwin, who is certainly able in her cast of characters, has added to her praise by singing a song in the *Midnight Hour*, so finely as to be most cordially *encored*.

We have not yet had opportunity to witness the performance of "*Touchstone*, or *The World as it goes*;" but generally the male performers have had but little occasion to exercise their best talents during the recent abdication of Tragedy and Comedy in favour of Opera, and we should be glad if some plan could be fallen upon to leave those legitimate sovereigns in possession of the stage, and at the same time permit the "sweet singers" to remain.

BRITISH THEATRICALS.

The following account of the *scene* which was exhibited on the occasion of Mr. Kemble's retiring from the stage, which we have taken from a London Magazine, is calculated to impress us with great respect, both for the actor and for the audience. For the actor that in that elevated path which he ever trod, he should have so wonderfully excelled; for the audience that they had not only the discernment to discriminate that excellence, but the sense to appreciate it. The performer whose utterance and action can give full force to the conceptions of Shakspeare, must share largely in the best boons of nature and education, and will always command the regard and the veneration of the lovers of genius. The only way to produce actors of the character and eminence of Kemble, is, whilst we bow before his worth, to look down with scorn upon the coxcombs who

have the impudence to ape his manner, without the sense to imitate his qualities. The commendation bestowed upon fools is a robbery from men of merit. Whilst an ignorant public is stupid enough to applaud mere starers, and starters, and stampers, they will never have any thing else to admire.

COVENT GARDEN THEATRE.

The only circumstance worthy of remark between our last report and the closing of this house for the season has been the retirement of Mr. Kemble from the stage. This event took place on the 23d of June, after the performance of *Coriolanus* for his own benefit. The interest excited by its approach surpassed every thing of the kind on similar occasions. The whole of the boxes and places which could be secured had been taken a fortnight before; and in their anxiety to witness the last appearance of this great actor, numbers began to collect round the entrance of the pit so early as twelve o'clock. The rush on the opening of the doors was in consequence tremendous, though not productive of any serious accident, and the house was instantly filled. Never did Kemble perform the arduous part of *Coriolanus* with more energy and grandeur, and his unabated professional powers served only to add to the public regret for the immediate loss of his exertions. The audience eagerly seized every passage in the play that could be applied to the situation of their justly valued favourite, and marked them with enthusiastic applause. Between the acts an address to Mr. Kemble, printed on a folio sheet, was circulated through the house. A copy of it printed in gold letters upon white satin, encompassed by a border of fanciful ornaments embroidered in gold, and accompanied by a superb crown of laurel, was handed to the front of the pit to be presented at the conclusion. At the fall of the curtain, placards were exhibited in different parts of the pit and galleries, inscribed with this further manifestation of the public wish, "No farewell for ever from Kemble." Owing to a misconception that these were designed to prevent Mr. Kemble from delivering *any* address, murmurs immediately arose. But this circumstance only afforded an additional proof of public esteem. The idea that a prevention or disrespect was intended, occasioned some tumult, although it soon appeared that the audience had but one wish and opinion. A short but anxious interval ensued. The curtain was again drawn up; a grand street of Rome, which forms a principal scene in the tragedy, was displayed; and Kemble, in the Roman costume, in which he had performed *Coriolanus*, came forward. One of those lofty public edifices which adorned the capital of the ancient world rose behind him. The impression produced by this unison, on such an occasion, was deeply felt. It appeared as if Kemble, the Roman spirit, the Roman grandeur, and Rome itself, were about to disappear from the stage, and leave a chasm which could no more be filled.

The ties of sympathy which had for more than thirty years bound him to all that was great and noble in the drama, and knit him as it were into the heart of the public, were about to be at once, and it was to be feared, for ever, dissolved. Those who had seen his outset in their youth, felt in his retiring the interests of the past, the present, and the narrow future, crowded into the single moment. Several long and continued thunders of applause rendered it impossible for him to be heard for some time. At length in a faltering voice, and often interrupted by his feelings, he addressed the audience:—

"Ladies and Gentlemen, I have appeared before you for the last time." (Here he was interrupted by loud cries of "No, No," from all parts of the house.) He then resumed, "I come now to close my long professional career." (He was again obliged to stop by loud cries of "No, No—No retiring—No farewell for ever.") This tumult of applause and the reiterated proofs of public esteem affected him to tears, and rendered him still less capable of collecting firmness. When he proceeded his tone was broken and his countenance agitated.—"Ladies and Gentlemen, I do not wish to trespass on your time—I feared I should not have sufficient fortitude for this occasion—and it was my wish to have withdrawn in silence from you:" (loud cries and applauses:) "but I suffered myself to be persuaded, that if only from old custom, a few words would be expected from me at parting." (Renewed applauses.) "The invariable kindness with which you have ever treated me, from the first night of my coming forward as a candidate for public favour down to this painful moment, will be eternally remembered with gratitude. Such talents as I have been master of have always cheerfully been exerted in your service; whether as an actor in the character allotted to me, or as a manager, it has ever been my ambition to add to the splendour and propriety of the drama, and more especially to exert myself to give effect to the plays of our divine Shakspeare. (Loud applause.) On every occasion, permit me to say, all my efforts, all my studies, all my labours have been made delightful to me by the constant applause and approbation with which you have been pleased to reward them. (Applauses.) Ladies and Gentlemen! I must take my leave of you, and I now most respectfully bid you a long and unwilling farewell." At these words he bowed with much agitation, and amidst a repetition of enthusiastic applauses and cries of regret from all parts of the house, hastily withdrew from the stage. The copy of the address on white satin and the crown of laurel were then delivered to the celebrated French tragedian Mr. Talma, in the orchestra, with a request that he would fling them upon the stage. This was done, and Mr. Fawcett, the stage manager, was summoned to present them to Mr. Kemble. As an additional mark of honour to the valued

favourite, the audience forbade any after-piece: and the performance of the night was closed in compliance with their wishes.

Here follows a correct copy of the address printed on the satin scroll, which is from the energetic pen of Mr. WILLIAM CAREY:—

TO
JOHN PHILIP KEMBLE, ESQ.

OF THE

THEATRE ROYAL, COVENT GARDEN.

Sir,—After having so long received from the display of your eminent abilities, the greatest degree of gratification and instruction, which the highest class of histrionic representation could bestow, we think upon the near approach of your intended farewell to the stage with sentiments of deep concern, and if possible, an increase of respect. In justice to the interest of the drama and to our own feelings we would fain postpone the moment of a separation so painful. Fitted by the endowments of nature and by classical acquirements, by high association, and the honourable ambition of excellence, you have for upwards of thirty years dignified the profession of an actor by your private conduct and public exertions in the British capital. We beheld, in your personification the spirit of history and poetry united. In embodying the characters of Shakspeare and our other dramatic writers, you were not contented to revive an outward show of their greatness alone:—the splendour of an antique costume—the helmet and armour—the crown and sceptre—all that pertains to the insignia of command are easily assumed. When you appeared the habit and the man were as soul and body. The age and country in which we live were forgotten. Time rolled back a long succession of centuries. The grave gave up its illustrious dead. Cities and nations, long passed away, re-appeared; and the elder brothers of renown, the heroes and statesmen, the sages and monarchs of other years, girt in the brightness of their shadowy glory, lived and loved, and fought, and bled before us. We beheld in you, not only their varying looks and gestures, their proud march and grandeur of demeanour; but the elevated tone of their mind, and the flame of their passions. We mean not here to enumerate the various characters in which you have shone as the light of your era: but we may be allowed to say that *you excelled in that which was most excellent*; that wherever the grandeur of an exalted mind was united with majesty of person; wherever the noblest organ was required for the noblest expression; wherever nature, holding up the mould of character, called for an impression from the most precious of metals, there she looked to KEMBLE as her gold; there you shone with pre-eminent lustre. In the austere dignity of Cato, the stern patriotism of Brutus, the fiery bearing of Coriolanus, and the mad intoxication of Alexander, you transported your audience in imagination alternately to Greece, Rome, or Babylon.

Seconded by the well painted illusion of local scenery, you seemed every where in your native city : every where contemporary with the august edifices of the ancient world. In you some of those great characters lived, and we cannot conceal our apprehensions, that when you withdraw, we shall lose sight of them for a long time, and as life is short, perhaps for ever. In expressing this sentiment we feel a warm respect for every actor of genius. A mind like yours would be wounded by any compliment that was not founded in the most liberal sense of general desert. It is an additional merit in you to have obtained distinction in an age of refinement, and from a public qualified to appreciate your powers. A small light shines in darkness ; but you have flourished amidst a circle of generous competitors for fame, whose various abilities we admire ; and in whose well earned applause we proudly join. They behold in the honours which your country pays to you, the permanence of that celebrity which they have already so de-

servedly acquired, and a sure pledge of the future honours which await the close of their professional career. We, therefore, earnestly entreat that you will not at once deprive the public of their gratification, and the stage of your support. We entreat you not to take your final leave on the night named for your last performance. All we ask is, that you will consent to perform a few nights each season, so long as your health will permit. We adjure you to grant this request, by your own fame—an object which is not more dear to you than it is to us, and we confidently rely upon your respect for public opinion that you will not cover us with the regret of a refusal. We have spared the annexation of signatures as inadequate and unnecessary, even if our numbers and restricted limits permitted that form. The pealing applause of the audience, each night of your performance, and the united voice which accompanies this, are the best attestation of the public sentiment.

Monday, June 23d, 1817.

ART. 11. MONTHLY SUMMARY OF POLITICAL INTELLIGENCE.

EUROPE.

GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

THE British government continue to maintain neutrality, in regard to the contest between Spain and her South-American provinces ; although it is stated that supplies of officers and troops, in considerable numbers, well furnished with arms and other warlike stores are fitting out in England, and that toward the latter end of September more than 3000 muskets, with equipments for infantry and cavalry in proportion, were inspected by the agents of the Spanish patriots, and shipped to South America. Accounts continue to represent the demand for English manufactures increasing, particularly in the East-Indies, and South America, and so much so, that the price of wool has advanced 25 per cent.

It is estimated that the importation of flour from the United States into Great Britain within a year, has amounted to near \$15,000,000. The City of Liverpool alone is said to have imported about 500,000 barrels at an average price computed at \$13 to \$14 per barrel.

From the annual accounts, up to May, 1817, it appears that the *receipts* of the East-India Company, for the year immediately preceding, amounted to £9,928,932 ; the payments, to £9,824,116, leaving a surplus of £104,816. The debts of the company are stated at £13,395,651, and its property is valued at £24,289,002,

which leaves a balance in favour of the company of £10,894,351.

Mr. Ellis of Barming, the largest hop-grower in England, commenced picking the 3th of September, and employed two thousand seven hundred persons to gather in his crop.

Subscriptions have been taken in England for cutting a canal to connect the eastern and western seas.

The London Waterloo committee have placed at the disposal of Marshal Blucher 200,000 rix dollars for the benefit of the Prussian sufferers, besides £10,000 for those who lost their natural protectors by the battle. The king of Prussia has acknowledged the receipt of these donations in a grateful manner.

The English papers contain an account of a whale found in the Solway Frith, which had been driven on the sand. It was cut to pieces and carried ashore.

Another whale had got aground between Staxigo and Wick, near the Bothaven, measuring 66 feet five inches in length. The carcass was claimed by Sir Benj. Dunbar, as lord of the manor, and by the Provost of Wick, on the part of the crown. Owing to the dispute the animal remained undisturbed until a heavy gale of wind tore his carcass to pieces, part of which was driven to sea.

On the 1st of Oct. the entire military force in Ireland consisted of seven regiments of cavalry, and twenty-five regi-

ments of infantry, exclusive of artillery.

The board of commissioners of excise in Ireland, have given notice to the collectors of customs, that in future they are determined to prosecute to the utmost rigour of the law, all attempts to defraud the revenue, notwithstanding the respectability of the shipper or consignee.

FRANCE.

The liberal party is said to have succeeded at the late elections, in France; and in the department Seine, which comprehends Paris within its limits, seven out of the eight members chosen for the Chamber of Deputies are said to have been of that party. The number of deputies elected this year amounts to sixty-three.

A public subscription has been opened in Paris for the support of the liberty of the press, and to defray the expenses of such writers as may be prosecuted for the freedom of their discussions. M. Lafitte, governor of the Bank of France, and the Duke of Broglie, member of the chamber of peers, are to receive and apply the monies.

The French appear to be growing very restless under the superintendence of the allied powers, and several persons concerned in a very extensive plot, with the insignia of L'Épingle Noire, *i. e.* the black pin, who were prosecuted under the pretext that their object was to expel Louis, appeared, upon trial, to have had in view simply the expulsion of the allied troops. It was stated, by the king's attorney, that the numbers of these discontents, were 80,000; the lawyers of the accused supported their cause with great boldness, and the jury brought in a verdict of not guilty.

It is expected that this year's budget in France will be heavier than the last, and it is attributed to the payments which are to be made on account of the claims of the allied powers.

It is understood that the Admiral of France, the Duke of Angoulême, has been employed in inspecting the coasts and ports of Brittany, and the western departments.

The cabinet of Louis is composed of the following members: the Duke de Richelieu, Gouvion St. Cyr, Pasquier, Caze, Laine, Mole, and Corvetto, all of whom, except Richelieu, held high stations under Bonaparte.

A meeting of the two chambers has been summoned, and a number of new peers and deputies will take their seats. The chamber of peers will consist of two hundred and eleven, of which sixty-

four will be dukes, (and among them are Prince Talleyrand and all the dukes-marshals of Bonaparte,) forty-nine marshals, eighty-six counts, six viscounts, and six barons.

Upon examination into the amount of the imports and exports of the various ports of France, for 1816, it has been found that commerce has increased, particularly in the cities of Dunkirk, Cherbourg, Havre, Brest, L'Orient, Rochefort, and Toulon. The imports are valued at forty-two millions one hundred and fifty-one thousand, five hundred and eleven francs, and the exports at twenty millions, one hundred and four thousand, nine hundred and sixty-two francs, leaving a balance in favour of the imports of twenty-two millions, forty-six thousand, five hundred and eighty-five francs.

From the table of deaths and births, prepared by the twelve municipalities of Paris, it appears that in 1816, there were nineteen thousand eight hundred and one deaths, and twenty-two thousand three hundred and sixty-six births.

SPAIN.

Letters from Spain state that the troops destined for South-America, and sent down to Cadiz and other ports of Andalusia, have been recalled into Estremadura, government not having the means to subsist and pay them in the districts in which they were first ordered to assemble.

By a treaty ratified between the king of Spain and the allied powers the reversion of the duchies of Parma, Placentia, and Guastalla, now possessed by the Ex-Empress, Maria Louisa, is secured to the infant Don Charles Louis, son of the queen of Etruria, sister to the king of Spain, who is in the mean time to receive the states of Lucca, with certain stipulations, till the reversion vests.

Spain is making an effort to restore its naval and military strength, and large orders for naval and artillery stores have been sent to England.

The coast of Spain and Portugal is said to be greatly infested by insurgent privateers, who have made many important captures.

ITALY.

The Spanish and Neapolitan governments, as well as Sweden and Sardinia, have solicited of the Porte the liberty of navigating the Black Sea. It is said that the Turkish government demands a very high compensation for the privilege.

It is settled that the marriage of the hereditary grand duke of Tuscany, with the princess Maria-Ann, daughter of

the king of Saxony, is to take place in the latter part of October.

Letters from Naples, of Aug. 12th, state that "Prince Henry of Prussia, visited yesterday the American Admiral's ship *Washington*, of 74 guns, where he was received and entertained with great ceremony by Commodore Chauncey." The next day the prince gave an entertainment to the American commander on shore.

NETHERLANDS.

The conferences recently held at the Hague, for the conclusion of a treaty of commerce and navigation, between the kingdom of the Netherlands and the United States of America, have been postponed until the American ministers have received ulterior instructions from their government. In consequence of this, Mr. Gallatin has returned to Paris.

The prices of corn in Holland and Flanders, have advanced considerably, notwithstanding the favourable harvest; and government has interfered to prevent monopolies and speculations.

It is stated that of thirteen thousand five hundred and forty-four births in North Holland, during the year 1816, one thousand three hundred and sixty-eight were illegitimate.

A plan for a new palace for the king of the Netherlands, at Brussels, has been accepted, and the work is to commence immediately. The expense is estimated at three to four millions of florins.

GERMANY.

The Austrian Archduchess Leopoldine, who embarked at Leghorn on board the Portuguese squadron, for the Brazils, to join her intended husband, the prince royal of Portugal, put into Cagliari, in consequence of a storm, and the fleet was obliged to send to Genoa and Leghorn for a new supply of provisions.

The emperor and empress of Austria had arrived, September 6th, at Zalantha and Hennanstadt, in Transylvania, on a tour through their dominions. That province is a fine country, somewhat similar to the north of Italy. Its climate, soil, vines, waters, and rich mines, render it one of the most interesting portions of the Austrian monarchy.

The emperor has recently granted a patent of nobility to an eminent merchant of Vienna.

During the last summer twenty-five vessels descended the Danube, having on board seven thousand Wirtemberg emigrants.

The following, on the authority of the French Calendar, are the states which

compose the Germanic confederation:—

Baden, Hesse-Electorate, Branch of Hesse-Philippsthal; Branch of Hesse-Rothembourg; Hesse-Darmstadt; Branch of Hesse-Homburg; Luxembourg; Holstein; Holstein Oldenburg; Mecklenbourg-Schwerin; Mecklenbourg-Strelitz; Saxe-Weimar; Brunswick; Nassau; Saxe-Gotha; Saxe-Cobourg-Salfeld; Saxe-Meinungen; Saxe-Hilburghausen; Anhalt-Desau; Anhalt-Bernburg; Anhalt-Coethen; Schwartzbourg-Sonderhausen; Schwartzbourg-Rudolstadt; Hohenzollern-Hechingen; Lichtenstein; Hohenzollern-Sigmaringen; Waldeck; Reus-Greiz; Reus-Schleiz; Lippe-Schaumbourg; and Lippe-Detmold.

Under Bonaparte the Confederation of the Rhine included, besides the above States, the Principality of Ratisbon, Bavaria, Wirtemberg, Saxony, Westphalia, Berg and Cleves, Neufchatel, Wurzburg, Salm-Rysbourg, Isenbourg-Bristen, Aremburg and Lingen.

It is represented that a complete union has been effected in Bavaria between the Lutheran and the Reformed Churches. In Munich and Bamberg the pastors of the two sects preach alternately to the same flocks.

The young men of Lombardy have been prohibited, by an order of the Court of Vienna, from resorting to any foreign country for their education, except by permission from the government. No similar prohibition exists in the Austrian States.

The monument of General Moreau stands on the field of battle something more than a mile from Dresden, and though extremely simple, consisting of one granite stone, is very expressive. It is surmounted with a bronze helmet, wreath and sword. The inscription is merely,

The Hero, MOREAU, fell here by the side of ALEXANDER.

His Serene Highness, the reigning Duke of Anhalt-Dessau, Leopold Frederick Francis, died at Dessau, on the 19th of August last, in the 77th year of his age, and the 61st of his reign. He was born on the 10th of August, 1740, and succeeded his father, Leopold Maximilian, on the 10th of December, 1756; he was, therefore, reckoning the years of his reign, the senior Sovereign of Europe.

PRUSSIA.

Much political discontent is said to be growing up in Berlin and other parts of Prussia, and societies are forming for the purpose of procuring a constitution founded on principles of liberty.

It is stated, that after much discussion, the Prussian government has determined to lay a duty of 30 per cent. on all imported British Manufactures.

M. Humboldt is announced as being immediately to proceed to the Court of St. James as ambassador.

The King of Prussia is expected to visit Petersburg on his return from France; and it is asserted that he has agreed to withdraw his contingent of the army of occupation of France, on receiving the amount to which he is entitled by treaty up to the year 1820.

The theatre royal, in Berlin, has recently been burned, as supposed by design. This theatre was begun not twenty years ago, under king Frederick William III. and opened on the first of January, 1802. The edifice formed a parallelogram, 244 feet long, 155 feet broad, and 155 feet high, within the walls. It had 12 entrances. There were 3 rows of boxes, the fourth tier being the gallery, which ran all round. The royal box, elegantly decorated and lighted, was of the height of two rows of boxes, and occupied, in the form of a niche, the centre of the house directly opposite the stage. Another royal box was on the left hand, next the stage; and opposite that a box for strangers. From the centre of the roof hung a lustre with thirty-six argand lamps. The whole house could contain two thousand spectators. Besides the rooms for the painting, for the scenery, &c. which were at the top of the house; there were on the north side several saloons and rooms for festal occasions, particularly a concert room of unrivalled beauty and magnificence, which was opened on the 24th of February, 1803, with Haydn's *Creation*: it could contain, including the performers, 1,000 persons. This fine building, with the admirable scenery, with a wardrobe perhaps unequalled in magnificence and completeness, with an immense quantity of music, the loss of part of which can never be repaired, and with the most excellent machinery, was so completely destroyed in a few hours that nothing absolutely could be saved but a few boards and benches. The first notice of the fire was by the performers being suddenly involved in smoke, and a burning curtain falling down among them.

In 1816, in Berlin, there were 6160 births, and 5474 deaths. The oldest person was 98 years of age.

SWEDEN.

The police of Sweden is uncommonly

rigorous. All foreigners, who arrive at any part of the kingdom, are forbidden to advance a step until they receive passports from Stockholm. The Duke of Devonshire, who was on his way to St. Petersburg, to attend the marriage of the Grand Duke Nicholas, was required to wait on the frontiers till a passport could reach him. At the remonstrance of Mr. Hughes, however, the American Charge des Affaires at the Court of Sweden, any American may proceed, upon a passport from any neighbouring American Consul, without interruption.

The old king of Sweden, who has long been in a state of mental imbecility, is said to be drawing near his end.

The creation of a navy is represented to be an object of particular attention with the Swedish government. A 74 gun ship, called Charles the XIII. has been recently launched at Carlsrona, and is pronounced to be a fine ship.

RUSSIA.

Count Nesselrode has informed the foreign Ambassadors at St. Petersburg, that he has been summoned to attend the Emperor at Moscow, and that in the mean time, privy counsellor Oubril will transact business with them.

It is stated that Alexander is endeavouring to obtain from the different powers of Europe, a convention to prohibit the subjects of any state from assisting the South American insurgents with any kind of arms or ammunition, and to declare pirates all their privateers that appear in the European seas. Austria is said to have complied, but England has objected, determining to maintain her neutrality. The manners and fashions of the English prevail in Russia, and the whole Russian army is clothed with English cloth.

The Russian government has demanded of the Porte a disavowal of the execution of Czerny George, and the exemplary punishment of those who put him to death.

This demand was made through the resident minister at Constantinople, to whom were also communicated orders to suspend the building of the new palace for the Russian Embassy at that city. A courier, moreover, has been dispatched to the head-quarters of General Beningsen, commander of the southern division of the Russian army.

A strict quarantine is required of all vessels in the Baltic, on the part of Denmark, Sweden, and Russia, who have

made mutual arrangements to carry it into full effect.

The population of Russia, according to the St. Petersburg Almanac for 1806, amounts to forty-two millions: but since that period Alexander has added 193,300 square miles to the empire, including the duchy of Warsaw, Finland, Georgia, &c. so that this estimate of 42 millions is probably several millions too low. Of this population, not above five millions are Asiatic; the rest is concentrated in European Russia. Notwithstanding a destructive invasion, and wars of great waste and expenditure, out of an establishment of one million two hundred thousand men exclusive of militia, Tartars, cavalry, &c. she can range in order of battle 640,000 men.

ASIA.

EAST INDIES.

It is computed by Mr. Raffles, in his history of the Island of Java, that from the year 1730 to 1752, twenty-two years, the deaths in the city of Batavia exceeded the enormous amount of 50,000 a year.

A most desolating volcanic eruption took place in Java, in January last; immense columns of fire and smoke, and ignited substances, ascended from the mountain with a noise like thunder or the roar of artillery, and the earth quaked for many miles round. The cinders, earth, and sand, vomited forth by the mountain soon covered all the fields in the vicinity, and utterly destroyed the crops of rice, which were very promising. The air became so filled with ashes and sulphurous smoke that it was hardly possible to breathe, and for several days the light of day was almost wholly intercepted. Multitudes of birds have perished, and the rivers are almost covered with dead fish. Enormous masses of rock, and large trees, were thrown from the heights of the mountain, and the rivers every where burst their banks, rising in many places 14 feet above their ordinary level. The desolation was so great that much distress was apprehended from the scarcity of provisions that would probably ensue, and much has already been caused by sickness occasioned by the bad quality given to the water. In the district of Gabang, a mountain tumbled down on the 27th of February, and buried eight families who dwelt under it. A similar event took place in the night of the 4th and 5th of March, in the district of Talaga, when a number of houses, with all their in-

mates, were in like manner overwhelmed to ruin, and not a trace of their existence left.

AFRICA.

ALGIERS.

A revolution has taken place in the government of Algiers, and the Dey is dead. On the 30th of September a number of Janissaries assembled round the palace and summoned the Dey to descend, who, being obliged to comply, was taken by the soldiers to the house of the Kishna-Aga, where he was strangled, and a merchant, who had retired from business, by the name of Ali Cogia, was declared successor. The ministers of the deceased Dey were exiled to different cities of the regency. The reason assigned for this violence was, that the reign of the Dey had been attended by nothing but disaster. The plague in Algiers is said to be growing less destructive.

AMERICA.

SPANISH AMERICA.

The Gazettes of Caraccas, under date of 24th of September, report a dispatch from Colonel Pimines to General Morillo, dated at Guiria, 23th of August, which states that he arrived before that place on the day before; that the enemy not coming out to meet him, he stormed the town, which was taken at the point of the bayonet amid a tremendous fire of the patriots, who were compelled to retreat on board their boats, and that the fruits of the victory were 4 pieces of cannon, 4 colours, 6 ammunition chests, and many muskets.

The Curacao accounts had mentioned that the General Paez had been defeated, but later advices state that he has been completely victorious, and the patriots continue to prosper generally. One of their armies is in Valencia, and the royalists are removing all the valuables they can. The city and province of Cumana and Barcelona are in their possession also, and Morillo, after having pillaged Caraccas, has abandoned it and proceeded to La Guira, which it is expected he will be obliged to evacuate. Brion has had a naval engagement, in which he gained the victory, but lost a leg.

PERU.

The royal forces, under the command of General La Serna, which had taken possession of Salta and Jupuy, were put to flight on the 8th of May, and fell back to Potosi.

This discomfiture of the royal army

has been effected by the persevering attacks of the guerillas, and the militia of the patriot governor Guemes, assisted by Colonel La Madrid. The army of Tucuman was to be put in motion for the purpose of acting in concert with the above officers, and it was expected that the entire evacuation of that province by the royalists would be the result.

MEXICO.

Accounts are very contrariant in regard to the success of the patriots in this province. Advices from Guanajuato, dated 5th of August, stated positively that Generals Mina, Ortices, Moreno, and Borga, with the main strength of the patriot forces, were blocked up in the fort at Comauja, and that there was no possibility of their escape. Comauja is situated about three hundred miles north-westerly from Mexico city, and is in that part of the country where the only remains of the insurgent people of colour are to be found.

Later news than the above states that Mina was not in the fort, but that General Moreno, after being besieged for twenty-one days by the royalists under General Linau, fought their way through the royal troops in the night, and proceeded to join General Mina, who lay not far distant, but could not come up to their relief. Still later advices represent that Mina was within a short distance of the city of Mexico, and that the above reports were circulated, in order to obviate the effect such information might produce at Havana. In consequence of Mina's advancement all speculations in the trade to Vera Cruz and Mexico had ceased at Havanna.

EAST FLORIDA.

The arrival of Commodore Aury at Amelia Island, though for a time it appeared to have brought a great accession of strength to the cause of the patriots, yet it ended in squabbles between his forces and those which were previously there, and threw every thing into confusion. Many skirmishes took place between the party which were attached to Governor Hubbard and the coloured troops of Aury, and the death of Hubbard occurring by fever brought on by his exertions to quell the disturbance; Aury came off triumphant, and has taken the management of affairs into his hands. The Hubbard party, however, are by no means extinct, and are said to be only waiting the arrival of Commodores Taylor and Champlin, who were shortly expected with considerable reinforcements. In the mean time Aury has published

two proclamations of the "Supreme Junta of the Floridas," one of which ascribes the dissensions which have taken place to the intrigues of the royalists, and congratulates the people upon the happy result which had been achieved by his seamen; and the other, addressed to the inhabitants of Fernandina, charging the party which had been attached to Hubbard, (as it should seem) with treachery and cowardice, and proclaiming martial law, for the sake of better preserving liberty.

PORTUGUESE AMERICA.

BRAZILS.

The royal authority does not appear to be by any means settled in the province of Pernambuco, if indeed the whole southern part of the Brazils be not on the eve of another insurrection. In the month of November, it is stated, ten thousand Portuguese troops invaded that part of the territory that borders upon the La Plata, which, though assisted by a considerable body of cavalry, are now in possession only of the city of Monte Video, the garrison of which does not amount to five thousand men. The insurgents are commanded by General Artigas, who is said to be an able and intrepid commander, under whom, and second to Artigas, is Colonel Ribeiro, a most indefatigable officer, who by the last accounts, was besieging the city of Monte Video, and repulsing the royal troops in all their sallies.

BRITISH AMERICA.

CANADAS.

A meeting has been held at the Court-house in Montreal for the purpose of considering certain resolutions, there offered, for the establishment of an agricultural society.

The commerce on the lakes is in a very flourishing state, both on the Canadian and United States shores. The ports of Kingston, York, and Niagara, publish regular marine lists; and Ogdensburgh, Sackets Harbour, Oswego, Sodus, and Niagara, exhibit on their lists, sometimes, twenty arrivals in a week, of vessels of 150 to 200 tons burden, fully laden.

Under date of September 11, the Quebec papers assert that two hundred and forty vessels had arrived at that port during the current season; and the number of settlers arrived, chiefly from Great-Britain, is stated at four thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven; and two hundred more were expected from Germany.

In the latter end of September a new Steam-boat, the Lauzon, of three hundred and forty tons burthen, with all her equipments and apparatus on board, was

launched at Quebec. Her engine is of twenty-eight horse power.

In the vicinity of Quebec the snow, which fell at the close of September, retarded the gathering of the fall crops, and did them some damage. In the neighbourhood of Montreal, the snow fell, early in October, to the depth of six or seven inches; the crops had been principally secured, but pasture was very much injured.

Died.] At Quebec, Peter Sambre, founder of the Roustigouche Society, celebrated for its athletic exercises; no person was admitted a member who could not throw a javelin of one hundred pounds weight twenty-six yards.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

The following are the names of the men who fill the executive branch of Government, and its several departments. James Monroe, of Virginia, President of the United States; John Quincy Adams, of Massachusetts, Secretary of State; Wm. H. Crawford, of Georgia, Secretary of the Treasury; John C. Calhoun, of South Carolina, Secretary of War; Benjamin W. Crowningshield, of Massachusetts, Secretary of the Navy, and Wm. Wirt, of Virginia, Attorney General.

Mr. Rush, minister to the British Government, has embarked at Annapolis, on board the Franklin 74, for England. Mr. Benjamin Ogle Tayloe, of Virginia, goes out with Mr. Rush, as his private secretary, and Mr. John Adams Smith, now in England, as American *Charge des Affaires*, will remain, as Secretary of Legation.

The foreign ministers, now in the United States, are Mr. Bagot, the British minister; M. Hyde de Neuville, the French; Don Onis, the Spanish; the chevalier Correa de Serra, the Portuguese; M. Dashchoff, the Russian; M. Greuhm, the Prussian, and the first ever appointed by the king of Prussia to the United States; and M. Pedersen, the Danish Minister; besides several unaccredited agents, from the South-American provinces.

There is also at the seat of government a deputation of six Cherokee Chiefs; their names are En-a-taw-naw-ae; speaker for the deputation, Roman Nose, James Brown, Richard Taylor, Richard Riley and George Harlin. The two first are aborigines, the rest are descendants from intermarriages between white men and Cherokee women.

ART. 11. DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

THE decision of the Superior Court of this State, in the case of the Trustees of Dartmouth College *versus* the Treasurer of Dartmouth University, was pronounced in favor of the the Treasurer. The judges were unanimous.

Mr. H. G. de Grandval, of Portsmouth, advertises an invention in the construction of carriages, whereby the passengers may be preserved from danger in case the horses run away, beyond the control of the driver, or the driver be thrown from his seat; or the motion of the carriage may be stopped to prevent its running down a precipice. For this invention he has secured a patent.

Mr. Loughton of this State is the owner of a cow, now thirteen years old, of which he makes the following statement, which is entitled to full credit. The cow is of singular beauty of shape, of a delicate milk-white colour, weighs one thousand lbs. and girts six feet two inches. Her average mess of milk, for several months after leaving her calf, is eleven quarts, or twenty-two a day. From the cream twelve lbs. of butter are made per week, and it is not unusual to find in the pail, after milking, particles of butter already formed. The cream taken from her milk during the thirteen first days after having her last calf, measured three gallons; the calf,

which at four days old weighed one hundred lbs. being fed from the cow during the time. Her milk is so good that a quart of cream always makes one pound of butter. She is never fed on corn or meal, but eats a peck of raw potatoes per day. The second calf raised from this cow is now seven years old, and of the same size and colour with the parent. The quality of her milk is thought to be a little inferior, and the quantity about a quarter less. The two cows furnish a family of twelve to fifteen persons with milk and cream for domestic uses, and of butter, there is often on hand a surplus of fifty to one hundred lbs. besides about 50 dollars worth of milk sold annually to customers.

MASSACHUSETTS.

At a meeting held at the hall of the Union Bank, in Boston, on the 10th November, for the purpose of considering the subject of a canal across the isthmus of Cape Cod, a committee of thirteen was appointed to investigate the matter, and report accordingly.

The trustees of the Massachusetts General Hospital propose to commence the following spring the erection of a General Hospital for the reception and cure of the sick poor, or any others, being resident within the Commonwealth, and have advertised for proposals of plans for the building; and to enable artists to form some idea of its required size,

the Trustees observe that they would wish to have it so constructed or planned as to be capable of containing and accommodating one hundred and fifty patients at a time, with suitable rooms for the matron, apothecary, and trustees, together with all the offices and conveniences usually attached to such an establishment. It is required that each plan submitted shall be such as that each section or wing shall contain so complete an arrangement in every respect, as to be capable of being improved with full convenience before the other parts shall have been erected; it being probable that the trustees will erect one wing, and wait to see the extent which will probably be required in future.

According to the report of a committee appointed for the purpose, it appears that there are educated, in the several public schools, in Boston, at the expense of the town, two thousand three hundred and sixty-five pupils. There are in Boston eight Charity Schools, which contain three hundred and sixty-five pupils; there are nineteen private schools kept by men, and one hundred and thirty-five kept by women, in which are taught one thousand four hundred and ninety-seven boys, and two thousand two hundred and eighty-eight girls—and in a population of about forty thousand, which Boston contains, there are only two hundred and forty-three children above seven years of age who do not receive instruction.

Ten acres of land, cultivated by Capt. Jonathan Allen, of Pittsfield, Secretary to the Berkshire Agricultural Society, yielded the present year as follows. Two acres, in spring wheat, produced eighty bushels; two acres, in corn, one hundred bushels; two acres, in rye, sixty bushels; two acres, in grass, five tons of hay, and two acres, in potatoes, two hundred and twenty-seven bushels. The produce of ten acres is deemed sufficient to subsist a family of ten persons, and to keep two cows and a horse.

J. F. Mansony, Esq. has been appointed the consul general of his royal highness the grand duke of Tuscany, for the New-England States, to reside in Boston—and has received the necessary papers from the American government to authorise him to act in that capacity.

RHODE-ISLAND.

Resolutions were brought into the assembly of this State, during its last session, providing for the calling of a convention of the people, authorised to form a constitution of government for the state; the full consideration of the resolutions was postponed till the meeting of the legislature in February next. During the last session, also, the proposition from the State of New-Jersey, to amend the Constitution of the United States, by making choice of representatives and electors by districts, was disapproved.

The expense of supporting the poor in the town of Providence is said to average near \$10,000 per annum.

CONNECTICUT.

By an act of the legislature of this State

passed at the last October session, the civil authority and select men of the several towns in this State are authorised to adopt such measures for the general Vaccination of the inhabitants of their respective towns, as they shall think proper and necessary, to prevent the introduction, or arrest the progress of the Small Pox, and to defray the expenses in whole, or in part, of such general Vaccination, out of the public treasury of such town.

During the last session of the legislature, also, an elegant sword and a pair of pistols, both mounted with gold, with suitable inscription, and to be manufactured in the State, were voted to be presented by the Governor, to Commodore Isaac Hull, who is a native of Connecticut, as a token of the high esteem in which he is held for his private worth and public services.

A young man named Williams, who keeps a retail store at Middletown, Connecticut, is ascertained to be the rightful heir to an Earldom in England, with an income of £15,000 sterling per annum; and documents authorising him to take immediate possession of his estate and title, have been received. His parents emigrated from Bermuda. He is said to be a man of fair character, and of unassuming manners.

NEW-YORK.

The Otsego Agricultural Society held its first annual cattle show and fair on the 14th of October. The exhibitions were numerous, and several premiums were awarded. Addresses were delivered on the occasion by General Morris and E. Watson, Esq. and from the interest manifested, much utility is expected to result from the association.

Robert Spencer, of Canandaigua, raised this season, from one field bean, six hundred and thirty-eight beans, of a good quality; and from two seeds of the pye squash, one hundred and sixty-three lbs. of squash: two of the squashes weighed forty-two lbs. each.

The Northern Canal, connecting the waters of Lake Champlain with the river Hudson, was commenced on the fifth of November, and will be prosecuted till stopped by the frost; the whole, it is expected, will be completed next summer.

At the Ontario Factory, under the management of Messrs. Buck, Brewster, & Co. at Manchester, wool was taken from the sack, in its natural state, and after going through all the necessary operations, was made into cloth; the cloth fulled, coloured, four times shorn, pressed, carried to the tailors, and the coat completed and worn, in the short space of nine hours and fifteen minutes precisely.

Mr. William Bard, of the town of Clinton, Dutchess County, raised, this year, on one acre, ninety-seven bushels and one quart of shelled corn, and this acre was in a field of twenty acres, all covered with excellent corn, ten acres of which, Mr. Bard estimated would yield as much as the acre measured. This corn was planted in hills, at the usual distance, in a field which had been pasture

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for sheep for a few years prior, and received no manure except the usual quantity of gypsum; but the ground was well tilled, and the corn carefully tended.

The New-York Female Assistance Society has expended, during the year ending Nov. 10th, 1817, \$1,970 25 cents.

NEW-JERSEY.

The Legislature of this State convened at Trenton, on the 28th of October, when, in a joint-meeting of both houses, Isaac Williamson was chosen Governor, Andrew Kirkpatrick, Chief Justice, and Theodore Frelinghuysen Attorney General of the State for the ensuing year.

A society for the suppression of vice and immorality, and the encouragement of good morals, has been recently established in New-Jersey.

The committee appointed to settle the accounts of the State-Prison, for the last year, report that the stock on hand, October 1st, 1816, amounted to \$28,605 63; and the amount drawn from the treasury for the payment of salaries, transportation of prisoners, &c. to 1st of Oct. 1817, to \$11,760 84. The amount of stock on hand, Oct. 1st, 1817, was \$46,861 84; from which deduct balance due sundry persons, for transportation, &c. \$9,456 31; and for losses \$2,961 44, and there will remain \$34,443 59. The committee further report, that the sum of \$3,870 99, of the money drawn from the treasury, hath been expended in costs of prisoners on conviction, transportation, and clothing, being for 77, sent to the State-prison the year ending Oct. 1, 1817, many of whom were for a term less than one year, and could not in that time earn any part of the charges against them. The committee therefore suggest, that if some other punishment were devised for smaller crimes, the system would be improved.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Two commissioners, appointed by the Governor of this State, have arrived at Newtown, Tioga, to explore the route of the canal authorised by the legislature of New-York, to connect the waters of Seneca Lake with the Susquehanna. This survey is undertaken with the view of reporting to the legislature of Pennsylvania on the expediency of uniting with the State of New-York to complete the said canal.

In October last, Benjamin Kite, of Philadelphia, cut down three Lombardy poplars, and on splitting one of them, about fifteen feet from the ground, he found a quantity of quicksilver in the tree. It did not appear that a hole could have been bored and the mineral poured in, for the trees grew in his court yard, were very small when he took possession, and had thrived well, nor could any trace of boring be discovered.

Married.] In Philadelphia, at the residence of Stephen Girard, Esq. General Henry Lallemand to Miss Harriet Girard, niece of Stephen Girard, Esq. There were present, besides the other friends of the parties, the

Count de Surveilliers, Marshal Grouchy and his son, General Vandamme, and General Charles Lallemand, senior.

MARYLAND.

It is now ascertained by actual experiment in this State, that the description of Wheat known by the name of the *Lawler Wheat* is not secure from the ravages of the Hessian fly. A quantity of Wheat, represented as *genuine Lawler* was obtained from Virginia by a gentleman whose farm is about ten miles from Baltimore, and sown this fall; within a few days past the young blade has been blighted as with a blast from a furnace, and on examination it appears that the destruction has been caused by the well known Hessian Fly.

We learn, that the *Lawler Wheat* sown on the Eastern shore of this State, and in some parts of Virginia, has experienced a similar fate.

A Beet has been raised by a gentleman of Annapolis, the present year, from the seed, of the following dimensions and weight; it measured round the thickest part 2 feet 6 inches; its length was 2 feet 2 inches, and its weight 15 pounds 10 ounces!

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

The following Indians are now on a visit to the seat of government, from the north-western country. They are under the direction of Mr. Isaac Walker, their business is with the government. *Wyandots*. Daanquote, or Half King, head chief of the nation, from Sandusky.

Tau-yau-ro-too-yau, head speaker.

Dawautout; Manoncue; Scotosh, Tau-yau-dou-tou-sou; Squindecte; You-dou-tou-sou. *Delawares*, Captain Pipe; Silas Armstrong. *Senecas*. Captain Smith; Con-gu-tou.

These are the identical chiefs among whom the president of the United States passed a night, as he travelled through the wilderness from Detroit, and by whom he was voluntarily guarded during his stay with them.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

The yellow fever has almost wholly disappeared from Charleston. By the bills of Mortality, during the week ending October 30th, but one died of that disease.

October 30th, was launched at Charleston, from the Ship Yard of Messrs. Pritchard and Knox, the elegant Steam Boat Carolina, owned by the Georgia Steam Boat Company, and constructed for the Savannah river.

GEORGIA.

By accounts from the South, under date of November 10th, hostilities were expected to break out between the United States troops, and the Seminole Indians.

General Gaines, with his troops, took up the line of March from Fort Montgomery, on the Alabama, to Fort Scott, on the Flint River, about the 27th ult. where he was to be joined by about 500 Creek warriors, who would make his army, including regulars, militia, and Indians, amount to about 2500 men. The Seminoles are said to have in the field 1500 warriors. General Jackson and suite, it was expected, would join General Gaines at Fort Scott.

General Gaines made a demand upon the Seminoles, for the murderers of seven whites—they refused, and in return stated, that our people had killed *ten* of their tribe, and demanded the *balance* to be given up to them, as the only condition on which they would make peace. The General made no further reply, but immediately put his troops in motion, to operate against them.

David B. Mitchell. Esq. of the State of Georgia, is Commissioner, to treat with the Creek nation of Indians.

Deaths in Savannah from the 1st to the 5th of October inclusive, reported by the Board of Health—males 50, females 12—total 62. Of this number 50 died of the yellow fever. Forty-three of the above deaths were non-residents, 32 of whom were seamen.

MISSISSIPPI.

In a letter from Natches, dated October 13th, it is remarked by the writer—"Of all the plagues I ever heard of, we have one that exceeds them. The yellow fever has raged so in this place, that three fourths, or at least two-thirds of the inhabitants have left the place, and there are not enough to attend the sick and bury the dead. The poor wretches are found dead in their houses by themselves, and it is difficult to get any one to lay them out and put them in the ground. Almost all the stores are shut up, and the post-office is only open two or three hours on mail days. It is such an awful time that not a dollar enters the town, except to get some necessary that cannot be dispensed with."

TENNESSEE.

An appeal to the sense of the people has been authorized by the requisite majority of two-thirds of the legislature of Tennessee, on the expediency of calling

a convention to amend the constitution of that state; on which question the people are invited to vote, *Ay* or *No*, at the next General Election. This is the most democratic process of any of our governments—submitting the question to the people, individually, for their opinion, without any representative intermediation.

The following resolution has been introduced into the Legislature of Tennessee, by some one who dreads the introduction of the National Bank into that State. The fate of the motion does not yet appear.

"Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Tennessee, That they do greatly regret the necessity which impels them to declare, that they will view with concern and disapprobation the establishment of any bank, branch of any bank, or other monied institution, not chartered by the laws of this State, within the limits thereof; and they do feel themselves under all the ties of responsibility which bind the representative to the people, to use all lawful means in their power to prevent and prohibit the same."

An Academy has been erected in Nashville for the instruction of females. The building is in the centre of a large Square, in which the forest trees remain. It will already accommodate 156 students, and is intended for 300. "Dr. Daniel Berry, and Lady, of Salem, Massachusetts, have been placed at the head of the Institution. Nearly one hundred young ladies were immediately enrolled as students."

Exports from West Tennessee to New-Orleans, last year.—\$10,000 hhds. Tobacco, \$1,000,000; 1500 bales Cotton, \$100,000; Pork and Beef, \$50,000; Butter, Lard and Tallow, \$25,000; Corn and Vegetables, \$50,000; Sundries, \$200,000; Castings, \$20,000; Horses, Sheep and Beef Cattle, \$100,000.

OHIO.

The commissioners on behalf of the United States, have, at the treaty lately held at Fort Meigs with the Indians, obtained a relinquishment of their claims to all the lands within the State, with the exception of the following reservations: At upper Sandusky, 12 miles square; at Wappakonata, 10 miles square; at Lewiston, 7 miles square; at Hog Creek, 5 miles square; at Fort Seneca, 7 miles square, and the tract west of St. Mary's River, supposed to be about 300 square miles, amounting in the whole to 425, 880 acres. The whole tract of land purchased, including the Indian reservations,

and the unceded tract west of the St. Mary's river, contains, by a rough calculation, says the *Supporter*, 3,862,420 acres, from which deducting the amount of the reservations as above, will leave 3,435,540 acres, to which the Indian title is extinguished. To this may be added, say 840,800 acres, lying north of the Miami of the lakes, and east of a meridian running north from Fort Defiance, ceded by the treaty of Detroit in 1807, making, agreeably to this estimate, an aggregate of 4,276,340 acres of unoccupied lands in the State of Ohio, to which the Indian title is extinguished.

For these lands the treaty "allows the Wyandots an annuity of 4000 dollars; the Shawanoes 2000 dollars; and the Senecas 500 dollars; together with the sum of 3300 for fifteen years to be divided between the Pottowattomies, Chipewas, and Ottowas."

MICHIGAN TERRITORY.

The citizens of Detroit have set about establishing a University. A subscrip-

tion was opened, and upwards of £1000 subscribed the first day. The buildings have already been commenced, and the first hall is expected to be completed the present autumn.

ILLINOIS TERRITORY.

His excellency William Clark, Governor of the Missouri Territory, and his Excellency Nimian Edwards, Governor of the Illinois Territory, are Commissioned to treat with the Potawotamies and other tribes of Indians, in the Illinois Territory.

MISSOURI TERRITORY.

Major Bradford departed from this post a few days since, with a detachment of U. S. riflemen, accompanied by Major Long, topographical engineer, for the purpose of establishing a military post on the Arkansas River, near the Osage boundary line. His object is, ostensibly, to remove squatters on the public lands. Something more may grow out of it.

ART. 13. NEW INVENTIONS.

Description of a water-wheel recently invented by Mr. C. A. Busby, of New-York, architect and engineer; applicable to Steam-boats, Horse-boats, and Mills; and calculated to avoid the great loss of power, and other inconveniences, heretofore arising from back-water, vibration, &c.

THE paddles of this wheel are perpendicularly bisected and suspended on pivots, by their upper edges, working in sockets fixed in the extremities of the arms of the wheel; the lower edges being re-connected (leaving a small interval between the parts) by braces, or bars, of rod iron. The sockets in which the pivots work are included in the circumference of a circle, whose centre is the axis of the wheel. The paddles are perpendicularly dependant, and the braces equi-distant from the respective points of suspension. It is manifest, therefore, that a circle equal in diameter to that including the sockets, and whose centre should be at as great a distance below the shaft of the wheel as the braces are below the pivots, would pass through all the braces. The inventor has consequently been enabled to introduce a strong flat ring in the space (left for that purpose) between the divisions of the paddles; with holes, or sockets, corresponding to those in the

arms of the wheel, and through which the braces above mentioned conveniently pass and work.

If the wheel were now put in gentle motion, and met no opposition, the paddles, turning on their pivots, would continue perpendicular; and the ring, suspended by the braces, would revolve about its imaginary axis, at a short distance perpendicularly below the shaft of the wheel. But in case of *external resistance*, the paddles would *trail*, or drag, and the ring be carried with them.

This inconvenience might *apparently* be obviated by converting the ring into a wheel, and giving to it a *fixed* axis, or shaft. But then the radii, or spokes, of this second or lower wheel, would be obstructed *in action* by the shaft of the main wheel, and *vice versa*. It has therefore been necessary to adopt some other means of retaining the ring *permanently* beneath the wheel.

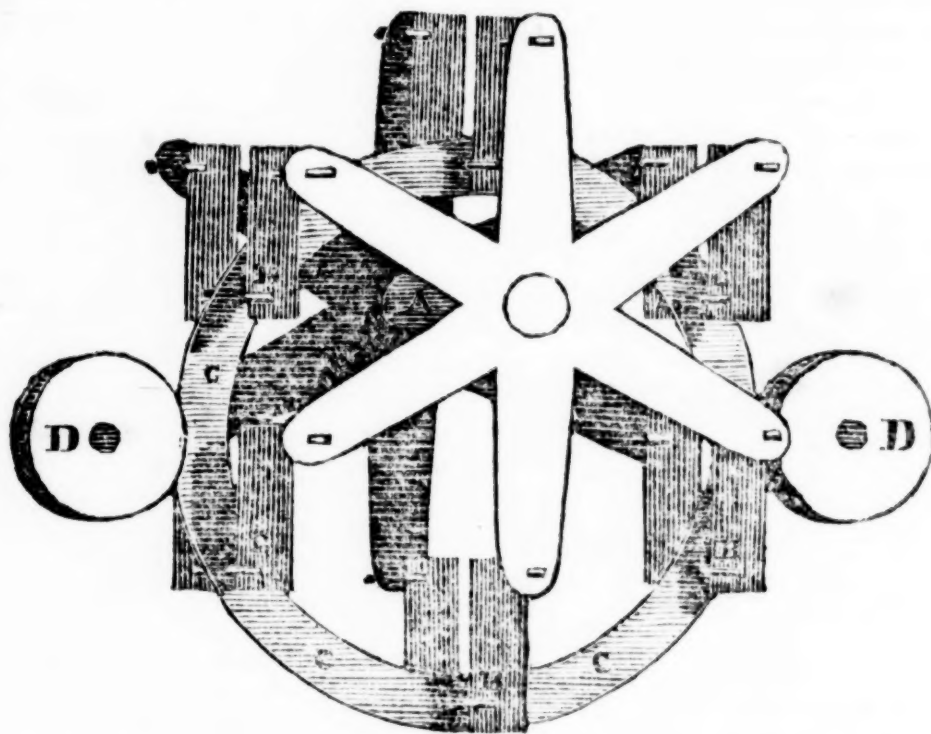
From an attentive consideration of the construction, so far as already developed, it will be obvious that the ring, independantly of its rotatory action with the wheel, can only swerve from its appointed station by trailing with the paddles; and this is effectually prevented by the addition of two minor wheels, or *guard-rollers*, on axis' fixed equi-distantly from the wheel, level with the centre of the

ring, and having their circumferences in contact with the opposite edges of the ring.

Thus the ring above described, notwithstanding its peculiarities, effectively performs the office of a second wheel, and the paddles, connected with *two parallel bicentric circles*, and revolving in conjunction with them, firmly maintain their perpendicular directions.

It may be necessary to add that this

invention, founded on scientific and novel principles, is as remarkable for the *simplicity of construction and operation*, exemplified in the model, as for the difficulty of conveying an accurate and comprehensive representation of it, through the medium of verbal or graphic description. The following cut, with the explanations accompanying it, will however, aid the understanding of the nature of the improvement.



- A. Axis of wheel. C. Flat iron ring connecting the paddles.
B. Braces passing through the arms of the wheel from which the paddles depend. D. Guard rollers.

ART. 14. MONTHLY CATALOGUE OF NEW PUBLICATIONS, WITH CRITICAL REMARKS.

Letters from the hon. David Humphreys, F. R. S. to the right hon. Sir Joseph Banks, president of the Royal Society, London; containing some account of the Serpent of the Ocean, frequently seen in Gloucester Bay. New-York, Kirk and Mercein. 18 mo. pp. 86.

Gen. Humphreys is entitled to our thanks for his sedulity in collecting, and his faithfulness in reporting the most authentic information it was possible to obtain in relation to the late terrific visitor of our shores. It is impossible for any one accessible to evidence, longer to remain incredulous in regard to the fact of the appearance of this monster in our waters. Gen. Humphreys has shown that his escape from the hardy fisherman of Marblehead and Cape Anne, was only owing to his timely departure from that vicinity. No opportunity offered after adequate preparation was made for attack, to try the contest, though it was impatiently sought by our

enterprising seamen. Since his retreat from the harbour of Gloucester, the serpent has been repeatedly seen in Long-Island sound. There are circumstances which lead to the supposition that more than one of these animals has been seen about the same time on our coast.

The second one is described as having several ashen or yellowish rings round its neck. The following summary description of the Sea-Serpent is given by Gen Humphreys.

"To avoid tedious repetitions, I give the aggregate result, that his head and tail resemble those of the common snake: some, however, think the head more flat, like that of the turtle (tortoise) and adder, that his colour is nearly black, his body about the bigness of a flour barrel, and his length from sixty to one hundred feet, or more. Some judicious people who saw him stretched out to his full length, by comparing the extent with the distance between two objects on shore, are inclined to believe the last men-

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tioned estimate approximates nearest to the truth.

"For the rest, there is an extraordinary uniformity of opinion.

"All concur in his having neither the gills, fins, scales, nor tail of a fish. All, I believe, with one or two exceptions, represent his movement to have been like that of the caterpillar, but infinitely more rapid. They imagined, also, he moved faster *under*, than *above water*. There is, naturally, a considerable difference between the reports of those who saw him at rest, or in motion, as to his smoothness, or roughness, as well as with regard to the curvatures and bunches on his back. To some he appeared jointed, or like a string of kegs or buoys connected on a rope: to others, uniformly smooth and round."

Soon after the disappearance of the Old Serpent, a *Young Serpent* of very singular formation, and supposed to be the progeny of the former, was killed by a Mr. Colbey in a field near Loblolly Cove, and about one hundred and fifty paces from highwater mark, as measured by the hon. Mr. Nash of Gloucester. There is a remarkable coincidence in the structure of this non-descript serpent, with that of the great Sea-Serpent, and its movement seems to have been similar. Mr. Colbey gives the following account of his rencontre with this reptile.

"Mr. Colbey says, that he and two of his sons were gathering hay, when the young serpent was first discovered by one of his boys, who called to his father to run, for he never saw such a strange snake. Mr. Colbey ran about four rods, with a pitchfork in his hand, before the young serpent had crept one rod. As the serpent was passing over some loose rocks, he clapped his pitchfork down, and confined him against the rocks, when the snake exhibited more temper than he had ever seen displayed by one before. He threw his head around, seized his own body, held on, and shook (to use his own expression) "as one dog shakes another when fighting." His tail, likewise, seemed to be a weapon of defence, for he swung it around several times, and struck the end of it against the handle of the pitchfork, when Mr. C. could distinctly hear a noise, which clicked, (as he said,) like a pin, when struck against the handle. Mr. Colbey's account of his motion is still more extraordinary. He says, that he possessed the power of contraction and expansion, to a degree almost incredible: that when contracted, he judged his length was not more than one foot and a half; and the protuberances on his back were (to use his expression) nearly as large as his fist. He afterwards remarked, that the tumours, when the serpent was contracted, were at least three times as large as when he was extended. When creeping on the ground, his motion was vertical, he carried his head near the ground, and he progressed very slow, much slower than a man ordinarily walks. He moved in a straight line, and his

progressive motion was produced by first contracting, and then extending himself."

E.

American Entomology or Descriptions of the Insects of North America, illustrated by coloured figures from drawings executed from nature, by Thomas Say. Philadelphia, Mitchell and Ames, 8vo first number pp. 40. with six plates and an engraved frontispiece.

The United States can at last boast of having a learned and enlightened Entomologist in Mr. Say. Those who have preceded him, such as Catesby, Abbot, Melsheimer, Muhlenberg, Barton, Escher, Leconte, Torrey, &c. have merely been collectors, or painters, or nomenclators; but the author of this work shows himself acquainted with the details and improvements of the science; he is at the same time an acute observer and an able painter. This increases our regret that instead of aiming at the glorious title of the American Fabricius, his utmost ambition is to tread in the steps of Donovan! and imitate his uncouth arrangements, desultory style, pompous publications, and costly performances. We regret exceedingly to see those defective modes introduced by the author of this work, and are sorry to foresee that they are not likely to promote his views. This was not the manner in which the labours of Linneus, Fabricius, and Latreille have been published, yet they are the classical authors of the science. It is true that we are offered an elegant specimen of typography; but the price of it is two dollars. For that sum we have forty pages (of which twelve are quite blank!) printed on beautiful paper and type, and six fine coloured plates, containing only eight species (whereof five are new) of insects, while they might have included sixty! Therefore at this rate, as there are at least eight thousand species of insects in North America, the sum of two thousand dollars will be requisite in order to admire the insects on this new plan! while on the plan of Linneus, &c. ten dollars might be quite sufficient. It would be well if this style was left for the use of the princes and lords of Europe. When this work shall proceed, we may endeavour to review it at length. C. S. R.

Descriptio uberior Graminum et Plantarum Calamariarum Americae septentrionalis, indigenarum et cicurum. Auctore D. Henrico Muhlenberg. Philadelphia, Sol. W. Conrad, 1817. 1 vol. 8vo. pp. 295.

This is one of the posthumous works of the rev. Dr. Muhlenberg, which had long been expected by the botanists: and probably not one of the least valuable. About four hundred and fifty species of Grasses, including the Cyperoides, and genera *Carex*, *Juncus*? are here enumerated and described at full

length. But like many posthumous works, it bears the stamp of imperfection: more than forty species, perhaps new, are published without names! could any one believe that in the present stage of science such a blunder could be committed. The author, had he been living, would never have done it, and unless the editor thought that there was no one that could rectify this omission, he is inexcusable; but we are certain that many of our botanists would have been very glad to do it, and associate thereby this trifling labour to those of the worthy author. The consequence will be that those new species will be named by Rafinesque, Decandolle, Romer, Leconte, &c. and receive therefore as many different names! while the real author will be deprived of that merit. It is likewise astonishing, that the editor could not, or would not employ some botanist to compare the species of Muhlenberg, with those of Pursh and Elliot! and frame specific definitions. These and many other omissions and imperfections lessen very much the value of this otherwise classical work; we shall endeavour to rectify them in a future review.

C. S. R.

Cœlebs Deceived. By the author of 'an antidote to the Miseries of Human Life, Cottage, Sketches,' &c. New-York, 24mo. pp. 264.

Though we have read this book through, we hardly know what to make of it. We must rank it however, we suppose, with the class of works called religious novels, notwithstanding there are some things in it that savour not overmuch of religion in our apprehension. It seems to be an indirect attack upon Episcopalianism; and deserves to be reprehended not only for its tendency to promote dissension in the church of God, but for a spirit of unfairness incompatible with the principles of the gospel.

By the by, we do not altogether approve of drawing religious discussions into novels. There is a time and a place for all things; a romance is not the place where we look for religious instruction, nor do we often take one up when in that mood which is best fitted for receiving it. Let us not be understood as requiring novels to be *irreligious*; on the contrary we think some of the best lessons of piety and morality may be effectually instilled under this guise. But as amusement is the avowed, so it should be the apparent object of such productions. A reader is not pleased to find himself circumvented by a sermon, where he had looked for a diverting adventure. Honest John Bunyan's allegories are greatly preferable to the flimsy fictions of modern sectarians. Cœlebs junior is less amiable, and not much more interesting than his predecessor. He is early the victim of deception. His education is commenced by his aunt, who tells him that if he will *only* learn his A, B, and C, she will love him. The poor boy however finds that not *only* A, B, and C, but three and twenty letters more,

all in a row, are to be learnt before he can establish his claim to her affection. He is next told that when he has learnt to read words and sentences he will be a *man*; to which his experience soon gives the lie. His aunt shortly after trepanns him into a clergyman's family, who fortunately proves a very worthy man. Cœlebs thrives under his tuition. In due time he is entered at college, where he grows dissipated, and gets in debt. He finds himself however master of a handsome patrimony, and suffers no great inconvenience from his folly. A visit to his guardian, who is on his death bed, recalls him to reflection, and revives his religious impressions. He now takes it into his head to fall in love, all at once, with his cousin Lucy, the playmate of his childhood. Her personal beauty entirely blinds him to her character. With a view to matrimony he *takes orders*, and *purchases* a benefice. Just as he is ready to install Lucy in the parsonage-house, he detects her in a clandestine correspondence with a circulating library, and their engagement is broken off in mutual disgust. In a few months Lucy marries an Irish fortune-hunter. Cœlebs has suddenly acquired a distaste to matrimony, and after becoming a convert to the belief that a *plurality of wives* is allowable by scripture, and after bringing over to the same faith a young female Methodist with whom he had contracted an intimacy, he persuades her, we know not by what process of reasoning, to cohabit with him without being married at all. The lady soon becomes satisfied that this concubinage is not sanctioned by revelation, and leaves him with an irrevocable resolution never to return to him, though he offers to undergo the rites of marriage.

Cœlebs's preaching in the meantime had given his congregation great comfort. He had talked much of the all-sufficient atonement, and of the imputed righteousness of the Redeemer; but had wholly forgotten to say any thing about the necessity of faith and repentance. At length the *happy* deaths of some of his impenitent parishioners open his eyes to his error. He shifts his ground and witnesses a happy reformation in his flock. To set a good example he once more turns his thoughts towards the wedded state, but finding the lady whom he had selected for his partner, from his recollections of her some twenty years before, already the mother of a family, he abandons himself to celibacy for the remainder of his life.

Such is the outline of the fable. The author seems to have a measure of good sense, strangely mixed up with prejudice and bigotry. Her style is exceedingly negligent; indeed her sentences are seldom grammatical.

E.

A sermon, preached in St. Paul's Church, in the city of New-York, on the 31st of October, 1817, on occasion of the solemnization of the third centennial jubilee, in commemoration of the reforma-

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tion commenced by Dr. Martin Luther, on the 31st of October, 1517; accompanied with an account of the solemnities and the order of divine service. By the Rev. Frederick Christian Schæffer, pastor of the evangelical Lutheran Church, in the city of New-York. New-York. Kirk and Mercein. 1817. 8vo. pp. 56.

"The chief motives by which Luther was influenced, and the principles by which he was prompted to speak and to act, when he commenced the blessed reformation, form the subject of this sermon, in which those motives and principles are traced and illustrated by a concise account of Luther's life and actions, connected with a rapid survey of the history of the times in which he lived. The subject is one of deep interest, and the reverend author has handled it with a zeal becoming an enlightened and sincere preacher of the doctrines of that reformation which he celebrates.

The style is grave, but earnest, though unequal, and sometimes faulty. There is on the very title-page an instance, in our opin-

ion, of bad taste, the title of "doctor" detracts from the dignity of "Martin Luther." The names of great men stand best alone.

L.

An Address, delivered before the Oneida Society, for the promotion of American manufactures, in their annual meeting, in Whitesboro,' on the 31st of October, 1817; by Isaac Briggs. Utica. William Williams. 1817. 8vo. pp. 8.

There is no room in these remarks to enter into a discussion of the interesting subject of manufactures, and the expediency of promoting them by governmental patronage, at the present period, in the United States; we can only say at this time, that the Address to the Oneida society is from the pen of one of our most intelligent economists. The time and attention which Mr. Briggs has bestowed upon the subject of manufactures, as connected with the prosperity of nations, the character of the man, and the extent and accuracy of his knowledge, entitle his opinions to the most deliberate consideration. L.

ART. 15. REPORT OF DISEASES TREATED AT THE PUBLIC DISPENSARY, NEW-YORK, DURING THE MONTH OF AUG. 1817.

ACUTE DISEASES.

FEBRIS Intermittens, (*Intermittent Fever*.) 5; Febris Remittens, (*Remittent Fever*.) 11; Febris Continua, (*Continued Fever*.) 12; Synocha, (*Inflammatory Fever*.) 2; Febris Infantum Remittens, 7; Phlegmone, (*Inflammation*.) 2; Anthrax, 1; Hernia Humoralis, 1; Ophthalmia, (*Inflammation of the Eyes*.) 6; Cynanche Tonsillaris, (*Inflammation of the Throat*.) 2; Catarrhus, (*Catarrh*.) 3; Bronchitis, 1; Pneumonia, (*Inflammation of the Chest*.) 3; Pneumonia Typhodes, 1; Mastitis, (*Inflammation of the Female Breast*.) 1; Rheumatismus, 2; Cholera, 2; Dysentery, (*Dysentery*.) 4; Erysipelas, (*St. Anthony's Fire*.) 1; Variola, (*Small Pox*.) 4; Vaccinia, (*Kine Pock*.) 24.

CHRONIC AND LOCAL DISEASES.

Asthenia, (*Debility*.) 3; Vertigo, 3; Cephalalgia, (*Head-Ach*.) 6; Dyspepsia, (*Indigestion*.) 8; Gastrodynia, (*Pain in the Stomach*.) 2; Colica, 1; Obstipatio, 3; Paralysis, (*Palsy*.) 1; Epilepsia, (*Epilepsy*.) 1; Hysteria, (*Hysterics*.) 1; Palpitatio, 1; Hypochondriasis, 1; Mania, 1; Apoplexia, (*Apoplexy*.) 1; Ophthalmia Chronica, (*Chronic Inflammation of the Eyes*.) 4; Catarrhus Chronicus, (*Chronic Catarrh*.) 4; Bronchitis Chronica, 11; Asthma et Dyspnoea, (*Asthma and Difficult Breathing*.) 2; Phthisis Pulmonalis, (*Pulmonary Consumption*.) 6; Hepatitis Chronica, (*Chronic Inflammation of the Liver*.) 1; Rheumatismus Chronicus, (*Chronic Rheumatism*.) 10; Pleurodynia, 3; Lumbago, 3; Hæmoptysis, (*Spitting of Blood*.) 1; Ptyalismus, 1; Dysentery Chronica, 6; Diarrhoea, 12; Eneuresis, (*Incontinence of Urine*.) 1; Amenorrhœa, 6; Dys-

uria, (*Difficulty of Urine*.) 3; Ischuria, (*Suppression of Urine*.) 1; Menorrhagia, 2; Plethora, 1; Anasarca, (*Dropsy*.) 1; Ascites, (*Dropsy of the Abdomen*.) 2; Hydrothorax, (*Dropsy of the Chest*.) 1; Scrophula, (*King's Evil*.) 3; Tabes Mesenterica, 1; Vermes, (*Worms*.) 7; Syphilis, 13; Urethritis Virulenta, 6; Phymosis, 1; Paraphymosis, 1; Tumor, 3; Hernia Inguinalis, 1; Cataracta, (*Cataract*.) 1; Luxatio, 2; Stremma, (*Sprain*.) 2; Contusio, 8; Ustio, (*Burn*.) 1; Abscessus, (*Abscess*.) 2; Ulcus, (*Ulcer*.) 19; Erysipelas, 2; Herpes, 1; Eczema Mercurialis, 1; Aphtha, 1; Scabies et Prurigo, 15; Impetigo, 1; Porrigo, 5; Lepa Venerea, 1; Furunculus, 1; Eruptiones Variæ, 4.

The temperature of October has been, on the whole, remarkably mild, and favourable to the continuance of vegetation. The mornings and evenings were sometimes damp and foggy; but there has been little rain compared with some of the preceding months, the aggregate quantity amounting only to about two inches on a level. Rain fell on the 7th, 14th, 25th, 26th, and through the night of the 31st.—Southerly winds have been on the decline, whilst those from northerly and westerly directions have been increasing in frequency. At mid-day of the 6th, the mercury stood at 70°, and on the night of the 30th at 32°, which were the *maximum* and *minimum* temperatures of the month. The greatest diurnal variation has been 25°. The highest temperature of the morning has been 60°, lowest 34°, mean 47°;—highest temperature of the afternoon 69°, lowest 41°, mean 57°;—high-

est temperature at sunset 64°, lowest 38°, mean 54°. Mean temperature of the month estimated between sunrise and sunset, 52° and two-thirds.

The effects of morbid action upon the human constitution, during this interval, offer little that is remarkable. The mortality among children under two years of age has diminished nearly one half, while the aggregate number of deaths of all other ages has been about the same as in the preceding month.

Fevers have been the most predominant, as well as the most fatal of all acute diseases. They have continued in nearly the same degree, and with much the same character as stated in the last report. No less than twenty-eight deaths are recorded from typhus alone, as will be seen by examining the annexed general bill of mortality.—A few cases of scarlet fever have also appeared in the city.

The weather remaining warm, and being occasionally moist, dysenteries and diarrhœas continued to occur, though in smaller proportion than in the preceding month. Some few cases of cholera were still met with during the fore and middle parts of this period; but the disease has now entirely ceased. The number of inflammatory complaints, on the contrary, has considerably multiplied. Rheumatisms are becoming more frequent; and catarrhal, bronchial, and pulmonary disorders are beginning to prevail. These will probably increase with the approaching cold of winter, till they finally become the leading complaints.—Several persons have also been seized with cough, hoarseness, and sometimes with coriza; but in general so mild as scarcely to require any medical attention.

The *natural Small-Pox* has again made its appearance among the poor in the upper and eastern parts of the city. Four cases of this disease have occurred in dispensary practice, three of which were of the confluent kind.—

One death from small-pox was recorded in the Bill of Mortality for August. It is to be hoped that some efficient measures will be immediately adopted that will tend to prevent the extension of so loathsome and, in general, so fatal a disease; which, when introduced into the close and crowded habitations of the poor, seldom fails to multiply its victims.

The case of enuresis, recorded in the foregoing list, occurred in a female aged sixteen years. It was speedily cured by the internal use of the *arbutus uva ursi* taken freely in the form of infusion.

The deaths stated in the New-York Bills of Mortality, for the month of October, are as follow:

Abscess, 4; Apoplexy, 4; Asthma, 1; Child-bed, 1; Cholera Morbus, 4; Colic, 1; Consumption, 42; Convulsions, 12; Debility, 2; Diarrhœa, 5; Dropsy, 5; Dropsy in the Chest, 3; Dropsy in the Head, 6; Drowned, 4; Dysentery, 8; Fever, 1; Remittent Fever, 4; Typhus Fever, 27; Malignant Fever, 1; Scarlet Fever, 1; Infantile Flux, 1; Gravel, 1; Jaundice, 1; Hæmorrhage, 1; Hives, 7; Inflammation of the Brain, 2; Inflammation of the Bowels, 1; Intemperance, 5; Killed, 2; Marasmus, 1; Mortification, 1; Old Age, 10; Palsy, 3; Pleurisy, 4; Pneumonia Typhodes, 1; Quinsy, 1; Scrophula, 1; Still Born, 11; Stone, 1; Sudden Death, 3; Suicide, 1; Tabes Mesenterica, 9; Teething, 2; Unknown, 2; Ulcer, 1; Worms, 1.—Total 212.

Of which there died 40 of and under the age 1 year; 18 between 1 and 2 years; 12 between 2 and 5; 7 between 5 and 10; 12 between 10 and 20; 43 between 20 and 30; 24 between 30 and 40; 17 between 40 and 50; 17 between 50 and 60; 7 between 60 and 70; 9 between 70 and 80; 4 between 80 and 90; and 1 between 90 and 100.

JACOB DYCKMAN, M. D.

New-York, October 31, 1817.

ART. 16. CABINET OF VARIETIES.

MADAME DE STAEL-HOLSTEIN.

Living, thank heaven, in a country where the sex are less addicted to political intrigue than in any other nation of Europe, we take up our pen to trace as correct a biography as our present means of information and the haste of the moment will allow, of a woman much distinguished in the annals of a neighbouring state, whether as descended from a parent deeply implicated in the Revolution, as herself participating largely in that terrible convulsion, as connected with its various factions and most famous leaders, or as a female author of the foremost rank in modern literature.

Last Saturday we announced the death of Madame de Stael-Holstein upon the 4th inst. at Paris:—she had been long afflicted with a painful disorder, which carried her to the grave, in her fifty-second year, a few months after she had witnessed the marriage of her daughter to the Duc de Broglie.

This is not the period for an analysis of the character or writings of this celebrated lady, though we look very speedily to lay such an Essay from a powerful mind before our readers: our purpose is simply to narrate facts, and if opinions are delivered they shall be only incidental.

Ann-Louise-Germaine Necker was the daughter of James Necker, a Swiss, whose financial career and conduct contributed probably more than any other cause to accomplish the overthrow of the French monarchy, and of Susan Curchod, of whom we know little till she became the wife of Necker, except that she was the daughter of a Protestant clergyman in Switzerland, admired * by the renowned Gibbon during his

* In Colman's "Eccentricities" there is a humorous story on this *amour*. Mad. Curchod is described as

"A philosophic Blonde, a Charmer wise,
Studious, and plump, now languishing, now prim,

residence in that country, and at one time a governess in the family of De Vermeux. Wilhelmina was born at Paris, in the year 1766, and, displaying what such parents might well consider to be precocity of talent, was educated entirely under their immediate inspection. The incipient fame of her father seems to have grown with her growth, and she must have been about 12 years of age, when, in consequence of his eulogy on Colbert (for which he was crowned by the Academy) and other publications, he was raised to the office of Director of the Finances. Necker, though of humble birth being the son of a tutor in the college of Geneva, had previously realized a large fortune as a partner in the Parisian banking-house of Tellusson and Co. in which he originally set out as a clerk. His success as a private individual was taken as an augury of success as a public minister, which was miserably disappointed by the result. It is unnecessary to follow the fortunes of the father through the fluctuations of his ministerial life; now dismissed, and now recalled; now the staunch advocate for royalty, and now the friend of the people; now "*the adored Minister*,"† and now the abhorred speculator; now borne in triumph from Basle to Paris on the shoulders of an enthusiastic nation, and now flying from Paris to Geneva amid the curses of an enraged populace. These things were common in France! Neither does it enter into our design to dwell upon the literary attainments of the mother—her charities and philanthropy. Suffice it to record that while Necker published political pamphlets, views of finance, and statements of administration, his spouse was no less devoted to works of benevolence, as is honourably testified by her "*Essay on precipitate Burials*,"‡ "*Observations on the founding of Hospitals*," and "*Thoughts on Divorce*."

Our chief, and indeed our only reason for touching on the progenitors of Mademoiselle Necker, is to account for her early predilection for literary pursuits. She was educated for an author. Her first perceptions were directed to science and literature. Her very infant ideas were associated with the intelligence of Marmontel, Diderot, Buffon, St. Lambert, Thomas, and all the learned of Paris, who formed the circles of her mother. Her talents were cultivated, her taste was modelled, the bent of her mind was given, her opinions were confirmed; in short her intellect was formed in this school; and the

philosophy then prevalent in France, too often concealing dark principles under brilliant wit, and lapsing from the light of reason into the perplexities of abstract metaphysics, became the dominating principle in her nature, and imparted the tone to all her writings and life. As variety and ambition were the ruling passions of her father, so was sentimental refinement and metaphysical confusion the besetting sin of her more amiable parent, and a disorganizing experimental philosophy, the object of inquiry with nearly all those associated with her "young idea" and "tender thought."

To these sources may be traced almost every feature which marks the faculties or distinguishes the writings of Madame de Stael. The events of the Revolution only drew them forth: they were implanted ere it commenced.

Mademoiselle Necker was little more than fourteen years of age when, in pursuit of his ambitious projects, her father published the memorable "*Account rendered to the King of his Administration*," which created so strong a sensation throughout France, and led to the resignation of the author's official situation in 1781. He then retired to Copet, a barony in Switzerland, which he had purchased, and six years elapsed before he reappeared permanently on the public stage at Paris. In 1787 we find him in that capital, attacking Calonne; and the years 1788 and 1789 constitute the era which so intimately connected his history with the destinies of France and the annals of Europe.

It was during one of the occasional visits of the Necker family to Paris, prior to 1787, that Eric Magnus Baron de Stael, by birth a Swede, was introduced to their acquaintance by Count de Creutz, the Swedish Ambassador. He was young and handsome, and succeeded in pleasing, we know not that we can say gaining the affections of Mademoiselle Necker, who consented to become his wife. Count de Creutz was shortly after recalled to Stockholm to be placed at the head of the Foreign Department, and Baron de Stael was appointed his successor. Thus dignified, and with the further recommendation of being a Protestant, his marriage was not delayed, and the rich heiress, to the chagrin of many French suitors, became Baroness de Stael-Holstein. We believe, however, that this union did not prove to be one of the most felicitous. The Lady was wealthy, young, and though not handsome, agreeable and attractive; she was rather under the middle size, yet graceful in her deportment and manners; her eyes were brilliant and expressive, and the whole character of her countenance betokened acuteness of intellect and talent beyond the common order. But she inherited, to the utmost particle, from her father the restless passion for distinction; and derived from the society in which she had lived not a little of that pedantry and philosophical jargon which was their foible and bane. Aiming more at literary fame than at domestic hap-

Who, skilled most temptingly to syllogize,
Chopped logic with a pair of large, blue, melting eyes."

The ascent of the lusty lover up the high hill skirting Lausanne, and the result of his courtship, is admirably told by our whimsical bard.

† "*To the adored Minister*," was inscribed on the gate of his hotel by popular admiration, and erased by popular abhorrence!!!

‡ It was undoubtedly the effect of this publication upon the mind of her daughter, which led to the wish she expressed before her death, to have her corpse attended for three days; which wish was fulfilled with filial duty by her son, Augustus de Stael.

piness, she was negligent in dress, and laboured in conversation; more greedy of applause from a coterie than solicitous about a husband's regard; more anxious to play "Sir Oracle" in public than to fulfil the sweet duties of a woman in private; the wife was cold and the blue-stocking ardent; she spoke in apophthegms to admiring fashion, but delighted no husband with the charms of affectionate conversation; to be brilliant was preferred to being beloved, and to produce an effect upon the many was sacrificed the higher enjoyment of being adored by the few. The Baron de Stael was a man, on the contrary, of remarkable simplicity of habit and singleness of heart. The opposite nature of their dispositions could not fail soon to affect connubial harmony; and though four children were the issue of this marriage, and what are called public appearances were maintained till the death of the Baron, it is generally understood that there was little of communion between him and his Lady beyond the legal ties of their state. Their bodies and not their souls were united.

In August, 1787, Madame de Stael was delivered of her first daughter, and immediately after accompanied her father in his exile, which was of short duration. Her other children were two sons and a daughter. Two only survive her. One of her sons lost his life in a duel.

The year 1789 is designated as the epoch at which Madame de Stael embarked upon the stormy sea of literature, by the publication of her "Letters on the Writings and Character of J. J. Rousseau."* But previous to this period she was well known to the Parisian world by the composition of several slight dramatic pieces, which were performed by private amateurs, by three short novels published afterwards, 1795, at Lausanne,† and by a tragedy founded on the story of Lady Jane Grey, which obtained considerable circulation among friends and admirers.‡ Her reputation was therefore no secret when her first public appeal was made. The letters on Rousseau met with great success, and the budding fame of the writer was attended with all the eclat usual among our continental neighbours. This triumph was, however, abridged and embittered by the critical and rapid advance of the Revolution. On the 11th of July, M. Necker was involved more desperately in its vortex. While seated at dinner with a party of friends, the Secretary of State for the Naval Department waited upon him to intimate his banishment from the territory

of France. Madame de Stael, whose whole life has been erratic, accompanied her parents in their hurried exile. A new political turn recalled them by the time they reached Frankfort, and Necker was once more reinstated in the administration, in which he remained fifteen months, and was then driven from office for ever to the retirement of Copet, where he died on the 9th of April, 1804.

Madame de Stael, who had gone to Copet in 1790, returned on the following year to Paris, and took an active part in the intrigues of that eventful period. Whether she plotted to save or to dethrone the king, is not for our present inquiry;* but at this time she formed or matured intimacies with Talleyrand, Sieyes, Lafayette, Narbonne, the ungrateful Lameths,† Barnave, Vergniaud, and other characters distinguished for the parts they played in the Constituent Legislative, and other bodies, whose operations nourished the germ of discontent into the tree of liberty. As the wife of an Ambassador she was protected from the first violent shocks of revolution; but the bloody ascendancy of Robespierre rendered all protection vain, and in 1793 the Baron and Baroness de Stael found it expedient to fly together to Copet. The Duke of Sudermania, Regent of Sweden, having acknowledged the Republic, M. de Stael was appointed ambassador, and in 1795 returned with his lady to Paris. About this date she published her "Thoughts on Peace, addressed to Mr. Pitt;"‡ and is believed to have exercised a powerful influence over the manoeuvres which distracted the governments of several ensuing years, especially as connected with the Directory. Legendre, the butcher, who, on the 22d of June, 1795, began to declaim against the "spirit of moderation," which he said was gaining ground, more than once denounced Madame de Stael and her party as directing the political intrigues of that time.

A domestic calamity varied the public tenor of her existence. She was summoned to attend the death-bed of her mother, to soothe whose affliction, it is stated, she was playing on a musical instrument a few moments only before she expired. On this melancholy occasion Madame de Stael flew to her pen for consolation; a resource to which she appears always to have applied when pressed by care or grief, or smarting under the charges which party did not fail to heap upon her, or soured by the animadversions of critics, to which she was uncommonly sensitive. At Lausanne, she composed the first part of the essay "On the Influence of the Passions upon the Happiness of Individuals and Nations," which was published at Paris in 1796, and the second part in 1797. This production is reckoned

* 12mo. pp. 140. The later editions have a letter of the Countess de Vassy, and Mad. de Stael's answer. The author also published "A Short Reply to the Author of a Long Answer"—a defence of the work against an anonymous criticism by Mr. Champcenets.

† The title is "Collection of Detached Pieces," and the "Essay on Fiction," written long after the novels, and a "Poetic Epistle to Misfortune," inspired by the Reign of Terror, form part of the contents of this volume.

‡ Only a few copies were printed.

* She wrote a Defence of Marie-Antoinette in 1793.

† The mother of the Lameths was of the Broglia family, into which Mademoiselle de Stael had just married.

‡ Sir F. D'Ivernois' Thoughts on War was an answer to this work.

one of her best, and was translated, in 1798, into English; a language in which the writer was well versed, as indeed she was in English literature generally, far beyond the usual acquirements of a foreigner.

Madame de Stael was with her father when the French troops invaded Switzerland; and though he had been placed on the Emigrant list by Robespierre, and consequently exposed to death wherever the troops came, his daughter's influence with the Directory was sufficient to secure him not only safety, but respect, and the erasure of his name from this sanguinary roll. She then returned to Paris and her husband; but in a few months, either tired by the persecutions to which she was exposed, or prompted by some other motive, hastened back to the repose of Copet. In 1798, the dangerous illness of the Baron de Stael recalled her to Paris, where she received his last sigh, and soon left the metropolis for Switzerland. After this period she published an essay "On the Influence of Literature upon Society," which may be considered as a continuation of the two last mentioned works. In 1800, Bonaparte, in passing through Geneva, had the curiosity to visit M. Necker, and, according to rumour, Madame de Stael took this opportunity to read him a long dissertation on the course he ought to pursue for the prosperity of France. The First Consul, it is added, who did not relish the political plans of ladies, listened to her very patiently, and in the end coolly inquired "who educated her children?"

The well-known novel of *Delphine*, written during this retirement, was printed at Geneva in 1802, and excited great attention in England, France and Germany; where it has been translated, attacked, criticised, and praised, according to the wants or humours of the parties. The author published a defence of her work.

In 1803 she revisited Paris, and formed that connection with Mr. Benjamin Constant, a Swiss, of considerable literary attainments, which lasted to the day of her death. Whether for past or present offences is not easy to tell, but Napoleon was not slow in banishing her to the distance of forty leagues from the capital. Report says, that on this occasion the Lady told him: "You are giving me a cruel celebrity; I shall occupy a line in your history." This sentence is so ambiguous, that we shall not venture to pronounce whether it was a defiance or a compliment! Madame de Stael first went to Auxerre, which she left for Rouen, and with an intention to settle in the valley of Montmorency, in search, as she gave out, of more agreeable society. But Rouen and Montmorency were within the forty leagues, and Bonaparte was not accustomed to have his prohibitions infringed upon. She was ordered to withdraw, and, in company with her daughter, and protector Mr. Constant, journeyed to Frankfurt, and thence to Prussia, where she applied herself to the cultivation of German

literature. From Berlin, in 1804, she hastened to Copet, on receiving intelligence of her father's danger; but he died before she reached the place. A mortality in her family invariably consigned our subject to the occupation of the study. At Geneva, in the year 1805, issued the "Manuscripts of Mr. Necker, published by his daughter."

Still further to divert her mind, she next travelled into Italy, and collected materials for perhaps her most celebrated work, "*Corinna, or Italy*," which has been translated into many languages. Having returned to Geneva, Madame de Stael amused herself with appearing upon the stage in 1806, and performed in tragedy with considerable skill. There is a drama from her pen, called "*Secret Sentiment*," but we do not know its date.* She has also given to the world a work entitled "*Germany*," † embodying her observation on that country. It has provoked some controversy. "*Letters and Reflections of the Prince de Ligne*," in two volumes; ‡ an "*Essay on Suicide*;" and several minor publications, as well as many contributions to the periodical press in Geneva, Paris, and elsewhere, complete the catalogue of her productions.

Madame de Stael has twice visited England; formerly during the revolutionary conflict, when she resided in a small Gothic house at Richmond, which is visible from the river above the bridge; and again about three years ago. During her stay in London, she was much courted by persons of the highest rank, and of all parties. Some of her bon-mots are in circulation, but we can neither vouch for their authenticity, nor have we left ourselves space for their repetition.

The party in France with which she was most intimately connected at the time of her decease, is that known by the name of the "*Constitutionnel*." The *Mercure*, we have reason to believe, recorded the latest of her opinions, and the last tracings of her prolific pen.

Faithful to the promise with which we set out, we shall now refrain entirely from discussing the merits or demerits of her life and writings. § These merits assuredly raise her to a foremost rank among the female authors of our age; and these demerits, whe-

* Since writing this we have ascertained that this piece was composed in 1786, and the Tragedy of Lady Jane Gray in 1787. About the same time Madame de Stael wrote an "Eulogy on Guibert," not published, but quoted in the Correspondence of Baron Grimm.

† This work was suppressed by Bonaparte, and subsequently published in London, from a copy secreted by the author, in 1814.

‡ Translated into English by Mr. D. Boileau.

§ We beg permission to annex, in a note, a neat and epigrammatic opinion on these points, for which we are indebted to a very able countryman of M. de Stael.

"Née à Paris d'un père Gènevois, et ayant épousé un Suédois, Madame de Stael sembla réunir en elle les qualités particulières des trois nations qui sembloient avoir influé sur son existence. On trouve dans ses ouvrages le brillant de l'imagination Française, la métaphysique de Genève, et les principes littéraires particulièrement adoptés dans le Nord de l'Europe."

ther springing from "susceptibility of being misled," as urged by her father, from the pernicious inculcations of modern philosophy, or from — but we will not proceed: her earthly account is just closed, and her frailties with her sorrows alike repose in trembling hope, awaiting the decision of an immortal tribunal * *Lond. Literary Gazette.*

From the transactions of the Caledonian Horticultural Society. A method of cultivating Asparagus, as it is practised in France. By Dr. MACCULLOCH.

That part of the garden which is longest exposed to the sun, and least shaded by shrubs and trees, is to be chosen for the situation of the asparagus quarter. A pit is then to be dug five feet in depth, and the mould which is taken from it must be sifted, taking care to reject all stones, even as low in size as a filberd nut. The best parts of the mould must then be laid aside for making up the beds.

The materials of the bed are then to be laid in the following proportions and order:

Six inches of common dunghill manure.

Eight inches of turf.

Six inches of dung as before.

Six inches of sifted earth.

Eight inches of turf.

Six inches of very rotten dung.

Eight inches of the best earth.

The last layer of earth must then be well mixed with the last of dung.

The quarter must now be divided into beds five feet wide, by paths constructed of turf, two feet in breadth, and one foot in thickness. The asparagus must be planted about the end of March, eighteen inches asunder. In planting them, the bud, or top of the shoot, is to be placed at the depth of an inch and a half in the ground, while the roots must be spread out as wide as possible in the form of an umbrella. A small bit of stick must be placed as a mark at each plant, as it is laid in the ground. As soon as the earth is settled and dry, a spadeful of fine sand is to be thrown on each plant, in the form of a molehill. If the asparagus plants should have begun to shoot before their transplantation, the young shoots should be cut off, and the planting will, with these precautions, be equally successful, though it should be performed in this country even as late as July. Should any of the plants originally inserted have died, they also may be replaced at this season. The plants ought to be two years old when they are transplanted; they will even take at three; but at four they are apt to fail.

If it be necessary to buy asparagus plants for these beds, it will be proper to procure twice as many as are required. The best

must then be selected for planting, and the remainder placed in some remote portion of the prepared bed, or into a similar situation, but without separating the plants. Here they must first be covered with four inches of sand during the summer, and as soon as the frost sets in with six inches of dung over that.

The stems of the planted asparagus must be cut down as soon as the frost commences, and close to the ground. The beds are then to be covered with six inches of dung, and four of sand. In March the bed must be stirred with a fork, taking care not to approach so near to the plants as to derange them. Towards the end of April, the plants which have died, may be replaced with the reserved ones lately described.

In three years the largest plants will be fit to cut for use. If the beds be sufficiently large to furnish a supply in this manner, the asparagus shoots should be cut as fast as they appear; otherwise they must be left till the quantity required has pushed forth; in which case the variety in colour and size prevents them from having so agreeable an appearance. An iron knife is used for this purpose.

In cutting, the knife is to be slipped along the stem, till it reaches the bottom of the shoot, where the cut is to be made. At the end of four years the great and small ones may be taken indiscriminately. The cutting should cease about the end of June.

At the beginning of winter the stems are all to be cut away, and the beds covered with dung and sand in the manner above described. If muddy sand from the sea-shore can be procured for the several purposes above described, it is the best; otherwise, river sand may be used; and if that cannot be procured, fine earth must be substituted.

The asparagus bed now described will generally last thirty years; but if they be planted in such abundance as to require cutting only once in two years, half the bed being always in a state of reservation, it will last a century, or more. The turf used in making the beds should be very free from stones.

Care must be taken not to tread on the beds, so as to condense the earth, in planting the asparagus; and to prevent such an accident happening on any other occasion, a plank should be used to tread on. It must be remembered, that the division of the beds, which is formed by thick turf, is intended to prevent the condensation of the earth below, in consequence of the necessary walking among the beds. As in the course of time this condensation will gradually take place, the turf ought to be renewed every three years, for the purpose of stirring the ground below: and in applying the winter coat of manure, it must be remembered, that even these walks are to be covered. If these circumstances are not attended to, or if the earth below the walks has not originally been constructed in the way described above, the asparagus plants which grow near the walks will be much less fine than those in the middle of the beds.

* Madame de Stael was one of the writers in the "Biographie Universelle," in which the articles "Aspasie, Camoens, Cleopatra," &c. are from her pen. Two letters from her to Talma appeared in a Bourdeaux Journal about a month ago. She was upon the point of publishing "Considerations on the respective situation of France and England in 1813," at the time of her decease. We take it for granted that it will be edited.

* * I understand that this plan has been put in practice by Mr. Allan, of Tweedside, with success.

From an English Paper.

EARLY DEPRAVITY.

Mary Farthing, who keeps a coffee shop in Warwick-lane, charged three boys with a burglary. The case is interesting from the tender years of the delinquents, and the unparalleled depravity of one of them.

The complainant stated that on Saturday se'night she left her shop safely locked up, and upon returning to it on Monday morning found that the casement was broken open, that an iron bar which crossed one of the skylights had been wrenched from its place. Upon examining her property she ascertained that her prayer-book was stolen, and she also missed a paper bag containing two pounds of sugar. The articles that were not taken away were scattered about as if a search had been made by the thieves for what was most portable. An officer was immediately employed. He suspected a most abandoned boy named *Sullivan*, who is only nine years of age, of being a party to the robbery. He went to the lodgings of the boy's parents, and found there a paper containing two pounds of sugar, and a prayer-book, which the complainant swore was that which had been stolen from her shop. Young *Sullivan* was apprehended, and upon being questioned by the officer, said that he had nothing to do with the robbery, but had taken the prayer-book and sugar from two boys named *Alley* and *Conolly*, upon suspicion that they had not come by them honestly. For his part, he intended that the property should be given to the proper persons as soon as he had time to make inquiry after them. The officer soon apprehended the two boys thus accused, and brought them on Wednesday before Alderman Cox, who entered into a long examination of all the circumstances, and found a case against *Sullivan* of the most desperate description.

The ages of the two boys accused by *Sullivan* were six and seven years. The members of a Committee who superintend a free school where the three boys had been received, stated to the Alderman that *Alley* and *Conolly* were, up to the time of the crime with which they were charged, honest and harmless children; but that *Sullivan* was a boy of the most incorrigible habits of theft.

The Alderman ordered that the father of *Sullivan*, who was during the examination in the office, should be put to the Bar, next his son, as it was most improbable that a child should engage in such dangerous enterprises without the authority and instruction of some experienced person; and as the stolen articles had been found at the father's lodgings, there was reason in supposing that some depraved participation existed between him and his son.

The father was, however, proved to be wholly ignorant of the boy's conduct; and it was stated by several of the police, as well

as by some respectable persons, that *Sullivan*, Sen. had done all in his power to correct the unfortunate propensities of his child.

The following was the story told by the two children, *Alley* and *Conolly*:—As they were going to school, to which they used to go every day, they met *Sullivan*, who had formerly been their school-fellow. *Sullivan* told them he would show them how to make money to buy cakes and apples; said it was foolish to go to school, and prevailed upon them to attend him at night to Warwick lane, where he raised them up to the sky-light of a coffee-shop, put an iron instrument into the hands of one of them, and made him break the window with it. He then obliged the other, who is a cripple, to tie a rope to a bar which ran across on the inside, and with the assistance of both, succeeded in dragging the bar from its place. He then sent the more active boy through the sky-light, with orders to steal all the money he could get, and any thing else he could carry. All the money the boy found consisted of two bad dollars and a halfpenny with a hole in it. The other property he took was that found at *Sullivan's* lodgings. As soon as the business was done, *Sullivan* took all the plunder, and threatened to hang them if they said a word.

A tradesman here stepped forward and said, the tools with which the burglary had been effected were some time ago stolen from his house by *Sullivan*, who broke open one house for the purpose of entering another with greater facility.

Young *Sullivan* was fully committed for trial. His father was discharged. *Alley's* and *Conolly's* parents were bound over to answer for the appearance of their children against the prisoner at the ensuing sessions.

SKETCHES OF SOCIETY AND MANNERS.

THE PLAY AT VENICE.

Some years since, a German Prince making a tour of Europe, stopped at Venice for a short period. It was the close of summer, the Adriatic was calm, the nights were lovely, the Venitian women in the full enjoyment of those delicious spirits that in their climate rise and fall with the coming and the departure of this finest season of the year. Every day was given by the illustrious stranger to researches among the records and antiquities of this singular city, and every night to parties on the Brenta or the sea. As the morning was nigh, it was the custom to return from the water to sup at some of the palaces of the nobility. In the commencement of his intercourse all national distinctions were carefully suppressed. But as his intimacy increased, he was forced to see the lurking vanity of the Italian breaking out. One of its most frequent exhibitions was in the little dramas, that wound-up those stately festivities. The wit was constantly sharpened by some contrast of the Italian and the German, some slight aspersion on Teutonic rudeness, some remark on the history of a people un-

touched by the elegance of Southern manners. The sarcasm was conveyed with Italian grace, and the offence softened by its humour. It was obvious that the only retaliation must be humorous. At length the Prince, on the point of taking leave, invited his entertainers to a farewell supper. He drew the conversation to the infinite superiority of the Italian, and above all of the Venetian, acknowledged the darkness in which Germany had been destined to remain so long, and looked forward with infinite sorrow to the comparative opinion of posterity upon a country to which so little of its gratitude must be due. "But my Lords," said he, rising, "we are an emulous people, and an example like yours cannot be lost even upon a German. I have been charmed with your dramas, and have contrived a little arrangement to give one of our country, if you will condescend to follow me to the great hall." The company rose and followed him through the splendid suit of a Venetian villa, to the hall which was fitted up as a German barn. The aspect of the theatre produced first surprise and next an universal smile. It had no resemblance to the gilded and sculptured saloons of their own sumptuous little theatres. However it was only so much the more Teutonic. The curtain drew up. The surprise rose into loud laughter, even among the Venetians, who have been seldom betrayed into any thing beyond a smile for generations together. The stage was a temporary erection, rude and uneven. The scenes represented a wretched and irregular street, scarcely lighted by a few twinkling lamps, and looking the fit haunt of robbery and assassination. On a narrower view some of the noble spectators began to think it had a kind of resemblance to an Italian street, and some actually discovered in it one of the leading streets of their own famous city. But the play was on a German story, they were under a German roof. The street was, notwithstanding its ill-omened similitude, of course German. The street was solitary. At length a traveller, a German, with pistols in a belt round his waist, and apparently exhausted by his journey, came heavily pacing along. He knocked at several of the doors, but could obtain no admission. He then wrapped himself up in his cloak, sat down upon a fragment of a monument and soliloquized. "Well, here have I come, and this is my reception. All palaces, no inns, all nobles, and not a man to tell me where I can lie down in comfort or in safety. Well, it cannot be helped. A German does not much care, campaigning has hardened effeminacy among us. Hunger and thirst, heat and cold, dangers of war and the roads, are not very formidable after what we have had to work through from father to son. Loneliness however is not so well, unless a man can labour or read. Read, that's true, come out Zimmerman." He drew a volume from his pocket, moved nearer to a decaying lamp, and soon seemed absorbed. He had till now been the only object. Another soon shared the eyes of the spectators. A

long, light figure came with a kind of visionary movement from behind the monument, surveyed the traveller with keen curiosity, listened with apparent astonishment to his words, and in another moment had fixed itself gazing over his shoulder on the volume. The eyes of this singular being wandered rapidly over the page, and when it was turned they were lifted up to heaven with the strongest expression of wonder. The German was weary, his head soon drooped over his study, and he closed the book. "What," said he, rising and stretching his limbs, "is there no one stirring in this comfortless place? Is it not near day?" He took out his repeater, and touched the pendant, it struck four. His mysterious attendant had watched him narrowly the repeater was traversed over with an eager gaze: but when it struck, delight was mingled with the wonder that had till then filled its pale, intelligent countenance. "Four o'clock," said the German, "in my country, half the world would be thinking of going to the day's work by this time. In another hour it will be sun-rise. Well then, I'll do you a service, you nation of sleepers, and make you open your eyes." He drew out one of his pistols, and fired it. The attendant form, still hovering behind him, had looked curiously upon the pistol, but on its going off, started back in terror, and with a loud cry that made the traveller turn—"Who are you?" was his greeting to this strange intruder. "I will not hurt you," was the answer. "Who cares about that?" was the German's retort, and he pulled out the other pistol. "My friend," said the figure, "Even that weapon of thunder and lightning cannot reach me now. But if you would know who I am, let me entreat you to satisfy my curiosity a moment. You seem a man of extraordinary powers." "Well then," said the German in a gentler tone, "if you come as a friend, I shall be glad to give you information; it is the custom of our country to deny nothing to those who will love or learn." The former sighed deeply and murmured, "and yet you are a Tueton; but you were just reading a little case of strange and yet most interesting figures: was it a manuscript?" "No, it was a printed book!"

"Printed, what is printing? I never heard but of writing."

"It is an art by which one man can give to the world in one day as much as three hundred could give by writing, and in a character of superior clearness, correctness and beauty; one by which books are made universal and literature eternal."

"Admirable, glorious art!" said the inquirer, "who was its illustrious inventor?"

"A German!"

"But another question. I saw you look at a most curious instrument traced with figures, it sparkled with diamonds, but its greatest wonder was its sound. It gave the hour with miraculous exactness, and the strokes were followed by tones superior to the sweetest music of my day."

"That was a repeater!"

"How, when I had the luxuries of the earth at my command, I had nothing to tell the hour better than the clepsydra and the sundial. But this must be incomparable from its facility of being carried about, from its suitability to all hours, from its exactness. It must be an admirable guide even to higher knowledge. All depends upon the exactness of time. It may assist navigation, astronomy. What an invention! whose was it? he must be more than man."

"He was a German?"

What, still a barbarian! I remember his nation. I once saw an auxiliary legion of them marching towards Rome. They were a bold and brave blue-eyed troop. The whole city poured out to see those northern warriors, but we looked on them only as gallant savages. I have one more question, the most interesting of all. I saw you raise your hand, with a small truncheon in it; in a moment something rushed out, that seemed a portion of the fire of the clouds. Were they thunder and lightning that I saw? Did they come by your command? Was that truncheon a talisman, and are you a mighty magician? Was that truncheon a sceptre commanding the elements? Are you a god?

The strange inquirer had drawn back gradually as his feelings rose. Curiosity was now solemn wonder, and he stood gazing upward in an attitude that mingled awe with devotion. The German felt the sensation of a superior presence growing on himself as he looked on the fixed countenance of this mysterious being. It was in that misty blending of light and darkness which the moon leaves as it sinks just before morn. There was a single hue of pale grey in the East that touched its visage with a chill light, the moon resting broadly on the horizon was setting behind, the figure seemed as if it was standing in the orb. Its arms were lifted towards heaven, and the light came through its drapery with the mild splendour of a vision. But the German, habituated to the vicissitudes of "perils by flood and field," shook off his brief alarm, and proceeded calmly to explain the source of his miracle. He gave a slight detail of the machinery of the pistol, and alluded to the history of gun-powder. "It must be a mighty instrument in the hands of man for either good or ill," said the form. "How much it must change the nature of war! how much it must influence the fates of nations! By whom was this wondrous secret revealed to the treaders upon the earth?" "A German."

The form seemed suddenly to enlarge, its feebleness of voice was gone, its attitude was irresistably noble. Before it had uttered a word, it looked as made to persuade and command. Its outer robe had been flung away; it now stood with an antique dress of brilliant white, gathered in many folds, and edged with a deep border of purple; a slight wreath of laurel, dazlingly green, was on its brow. It looked like the Genius of Eloquence. "Stranger," said it, pointing to the Appennines, which were then beginning to be

marked by the twilight, "eighteen hundred years have passed away since I was the glory of all beyond those mountains. Eighteen hundred years have passed into the great flood of eternity since I entered Rome in triumph, and was honoured as the leading mind of the great intellectual empire of the world. But I knew nothing of those things. I was a child to you, we were all children to the discoverers of those glorious potencies. But has Italy not been still the mistress of mind? She was then first of the first; has she not kept her superiority? Show me her noble inventions. I must soon sink from the earth—let me learn still to love my country."

The listener started back; "Who, what are you?" "I am a spirit. I was CICERO. Show me, by the love of a patriot, what Italy now sends out to enlighten mankind."

The German looked embarrassed; but in a moment after he heard the sound of a pipe and tabor. He pointed in silence to the narrow street from which the interruption came. A ragged figure tottered out with a barrel organ at his back, a frame of puppets in his hand, a hurdy-gurdy round his neck, and a string of dancing dogs in his train, CICERO uttered but one sigh—"Is this Italy!" The German bowed his head. The showman began his cry—"Raree show, fine raree show against the wall! Fine Madame Catarina dance upon de ground. Who come for de galantee show!" The organ struck up, the dogs danced, the Italian capered round them. CICERO raised his broad gaze to heaven: "These the men of my country—these the orators, the poets, the patriots of mankind! What scorn and curse of providence can have fallen upon them?" As he gazed, tears suddenly suffused his eyes, the first sunbeam struck across the spot where he stood, a purple mist rose around him, and he was gone!

The Venetians, with one accord, started from their seats, and rushed out of the hall. The Prince and his suite had previously arranged every thing for leaving the city, and they were beyond the Venetian territory by sun-rise. Another night in Venice, and they would have been on their way to the other world.

London Literary Gazette.

As early as the reign of Augustus but more particularly under the succeeding Emperors, a partiality for the Greek language and Greek fashions was not less prevalent among the Romans, than the partiality for the French language and French fashions is, at the present day, among the English. Two causes concurred to produce this effect—a frequent intercourse between the respective countries, and a love of novelty common to all mankind.

If the Romans had been content with adopting a few only of the more elegant arts and fashions of the Greeks, no mark would have sprung up against which the shafts of the satirist could have been pointed; but

their imitation of that refined and luxurious people exceeded all bounds; it was conspicuous in every department and transaction of public and private life; and seemed to threaten the total abolition of Roman customs and manners.

Between ancient Rome and modern Britain how exact is the parallel in this respect. With the conquerors of Attica, every thing was Greek; with the conquerors of France, every thing must be French.

It cannot have escaped persons of observation, that in the higher orders of society, in this country, the French mode is predominant in the dress, at the table, and in the social amusements. Among the women, the glittering silks of the continent have supplanted the less showy, but not less elegant, garments of our own looms; our tables are now covered with ragouts and fricassees, instead of plain English dishes; and reels and country-dances have given way to waltzes and quadrilles.

Nor is it upon our manners alone that the evil spirit of Gallicism is exerting its *intriguing* influence. It is *intriguing* also to the corruption of our language. In many circles there is an affectation of using French phrases on almost every topic of conversation; and the following letter from an English gentleman at Paris to his friend in London, may serve to show in what sort of jargon some persons of fashion now write:

"You must come to us immediately, my dear H—: you must *en vérité*. I have just been looking at a *house* on the *Boulevards* that will suit you *à merveille*. Colonel G—, who is gone to *Swisserland*, was the last tenant. It is *bien meublée*, and *vraiment raisonnable*. When Mrs. H— sees it, I am certain she will exclaim *c'est très jolie* and *tout à fait ce qu'il faut*.

"Living is extremely agreeable here; it is *en vérité*. Amusement after amusement *sans cesse*. No time for *ennui*, *mon cher H—*. A mere list of the different *spectacles* would fill up a whole sheet of paper.

"What fools we English are, *n'est-ce pas?* It is the French alone who understand *ce que c'est que de vivre*. You have ten times the *agrémens* at Paris that you have in London, *en vérité*; and what is worth consideration *pour beaucoup moins d'argent*.

"Some of our booby-country-men find fault with the French *cuisine*. *Pour moi*, I like it much better than the English cookery. The latter is too insipid; but there's some *gout* in the French dishes. *Non, non*, I shall never like plain roast and boiled again, *en vérité*.

"I dine most days at a *table d'hôte*, where there are as many English as French; but I always *manœuvre* to sit next to a Frenchman, to hear his conversation and to be *au fait* of all that is going on in the capital. The French are very communicative, *en vérité*, and one can't be surprised that they complain of our countrymen, as being *trop serrés, trop rétenus*.

"You will be sorry to hear that our friend

P— lost a few hundreds last week at the *Palais Royal*. I don't play every night. On the whole I have been rather lucky—*quelque chose* in pocket, *mais pas beaucoup*.

"I was at the *bal masqué* given by —. It was *magnifique, en vérité*. There were about sixty *masques*, and the different characters were supported *avec tout l'esprit possible*. In the course of the evening there was some waltzing, and *quadrilles*. I wish you could have seen the company at supper. The *coup d'œil* was *brilliant à l'extrême*, and the *tout entier* was conducted with the greatest *éclat*.

"Believe me, *mon cher H—*, in daily expectation of seeing you, most truly,

"Your's, G. M.

"P. S. I had almost forgot to tell you how *gaiement* we pass the Sunday here. You know what a stupid day it is (*n'est il pas?*) in England. *C'est toute autre chose à Paris, en vérité*. The opera, cards, dancing, &c. &c. &c."

European Magazine.

From the European Magazine.

TIGER HUNT.

An Account of a *Tiger Hunt* having appeared in some of the newspapers, which is incorrectly stated, we beg to give an Extract of Lieutenant Colnett's own letter to his relatives in London, dated the 8th Sept. 1815, on the subject of his providential and narrow escape from the jaws of that ferocious monster.

Extract of a Letter from Lieut. James Richard Colnett, 11th Reg. Nat. Inf. dated Secrore (Oude,) 8th Sept. 1815.

In the beginning of May, 1815, our army, from the hot winds and bad weather, became so sickly that we were ordered into quarters. On the 6th May we passed through a forest, and encamped on its skirts, near a small village, the head man of which came and entreated us to destroy a large tiger, which had killed seven of his men, and was in the habit of daily stealing his cattle, and had that morning wounded his son. Another officer and myself agreed to attempt the destruction of this monster. We immediately ordered seven elephants, and went in quest of the animal, whom we found sleeping under a bush; the noise of the elephants awoke him, when he made a furious charge on us, and my elephant received him on her shoulder; the other six elephants turned about, and ran off, notwithstanding the exertions of their riders, and left me in the above situation: I had seen many tigers, and been at the killing of them, but never so large a one as this: the elephant shook the tiger off: I then fired two balls, and the tiger fell; but again recovering himself, made a spring at me, and fell short, but seized the elephant by her hind leg; then receiving a kick from her, and another ball from me, he let go his hold, and fell a second time; thinking he was by this disabled, I very unfortunately dismounted, with a pair of pistols, intending to put an end to his existence; when the monster, who was only couching to take another spring, made it at that moment, and caught me in his

mouth, but it pleased God to give me strength and presence of mind, and I immediately fired into his body; and finding that had little effect, I used all my strength, and happily disengaged my arm: then directing my other pistol to his heart, I at length succeeded in destroying him, after receiving twenty-five very severe wounds, some of which were at first thought mortal: however, I eased the terror of the poor villagers, who appeared very grateful.

From the Philosophical Magazine for June, 1817.
CHARCOAL FIRE.

Notwithstanding the numerous accidents arising from burning charcoal in close rooms, a correspondent assures us, that he, as well as several of his friends, to whom he has recommended it, has experienced almost immediate relief from cough and catarrhal affections by sitting a few hours in his library with a chaffingdish of burning charcoal near his feet. He has found this practice so effectual a check to the effects of cold during the winter season, that he can assuage even a violent catarrhal cough in the course of a single day. It has even relieved persons with weak lungs, and who are consequently subject to coughs during the continuance of cold weather or easterly winds.

SALE OF A WIFE

An exhibition of this sort took place lately, at Dartmouth, Eng. A brute of a fellow dragged his wife to the public quay for sale. The poor young woman so degraded excited considerable interest. She had been married about a twelvemonth, is not yet twenty, and could scarcely be sustained from fainting as her unworthy husband dragged her along. She was purchased for two guineas by her first sweetheart. To rescue her from further insult, a respectable family received her into their house, accommodated her with a change of dress, a veil, &c. and in this disguise she was conveyed to a place of safety.

M. Werner, the celebrated mineralogist, who died at Dresden on the 30th of June, at the age of 67, has bequeathed his excellent collection of minerals, consisting of more than one hundred thousand specimens, and valued at 150,000 crowns, to the Mineralogical Academy of Freyberg.

PRESERVATION OF MEAT.

Don Eloy Valenzuela, curate of Bucaramanga, in South America, has discovered that meat may be preserved fresh for many months by keeping it immersed in molasses.

SPITZBERGEN.

In the years 1806, and 1807, Mr. Laing accompanied the celebrated navigator, Scoresby, in a voyage to Spitzbergen. During this voyage a nearer approximation was made to the North Pole than had been effected by any other scientific voyagers. Mr. Laing's account of the Shetland isles and animals which frequent the

polar regions is highly interesting. We proceed to make some extracts—

"The island Bressay lies to the east of Mainland, and is about four miles long and two broad.

"Adjoining to this island, and on the southeast side of it, lies the small but fertile island of Noss, the south headland of which is not less than four hundred and eighty feet high. Opposite to this, and distant ninety-six feet from the island, stands another rock or holm, of the same height. The holm is quite level at the top, and produces excellent pasture for sheep.

"To transport them there might well have been thought impossible. Human ingenuity, however, requires only the exhibition of difficulties in order to overcome them. An islander climbed up the rock, and having fastened some ropes to stakes, which he drove into the soil on the top, threw them across the intervening chasm to the headland, where they were in like manner fastened. A cradle or basket is drawn along these ropes, and sheep are thus transported to and from the holm. And the eggs or young of the sea-fowl, which there breed in vast numbers, fall an easy prey to the skill and industry of man.

"The adventurous islander who first ascended the holm, and shewed the possibility of joining it to the island, from an excess of bravery, met with an untimely end. Disdaining to pass over in the cradle, and trusting that the same expertness which had conducted him to the summit of the rock, would enable him to descend to its base—he fell and was killed.

"It may be observed, that both men and horses are transported over the rapid rivers of South America in a similar manner. Vid. Ull. Voyage de l'Amerique, vol. 1, p. 358."

"The method of making butter used in Shetland, being curious, I have thought proper to describe it. They fill their churn with milk, which they churn in the usual way, till the oleaginous part be made to separate from the serum. They then throw in some red hot stones, and continue churning till the butter floats at the top, when it is taken out, and carefully washed and salted. The buttermilk being boiled, what floats on the surface is used for food, and the residue is esteemed an excellent beverage; and when kept over winter, they reckon it an efficacious antidote against the bad effects arising from a constant use of fish."

From an account of a voyage to Spitzbergen, written by John Laing, Surgeon.

RUSSIAN NEWSPAPERS.

Since the new order of things, the Russians have borrowed from Europe not only its higher sciences, but all the familiar means of diffusing just such knowledge as the government might find to be profitable. The Petersburg Gazette, the oldest in Russia, has been published in Russ and German, under the academy of sciences, embracing all foreign affairs, and such commercial notices as the interest and convenience of commerce might require. The Northport or New Gazette, twice a week, began in 1809, under the minister of the interior, for the purpose of the police, and for such other objects as the tranquility of Russia might admit. The Russian Invalid, which had as its first object military affairs, appeared in 1813, continued till 1815, and contained all the military arrangements and documents of the empire, with such use of the papers of Hamburg and Berlin as might fulfil its purpose. To this was added the Patriot, which appeared in 1812, and continued till the end of 1813. Its

editor belongs to the Petersburg school establishment, and its object was for political, historical, and literary information. It contained many articles which might assist the history and geography of Russia, as well as of the state of the press in that country. The Spirit of the Times, was also another paper which appeared weekly in 1815, of which the object was general, but it is said to have contained interesting original documents. The persons to whom these papers were committed were persons of reputation, and under protection of the government. Such publications were not confined to Petersburg. At Moscow, in 1815, several papers appeared. Already in 1802 had been published the European Herald, from Karamzin, the celebrated poet and traveller, and afterwards by other hands. In this work was much literature, history and useful information. Besides this, at the same place was the Russian Herald, under Major Clinks, containing much domestic information, with all the ardor of national attachment. The Moscow Newspaper, a common paper, twice a week, was under the direction of the University. In Astrachan, twice a week appeared the Oriental Advertiser, a political and literary paper in the Russ and Armenian. The Casan Advertiser was well conducted, and appeared once a week, and was under the authority of the university at Petersburg. In Charkow was the Ukraine Herald, a literary paper from the youth of the University. Another paper also appeared in this place called Democritus in Charkow, a monthly, satirical paper, from a teacher in that place. In Riga was a Russ weekly paper, under the direction of some distinguished persons in that place, directed to all the objects of the common newspapers in other parts of Europe.

Salem Register.

From the Quarterly Review, for November, 1816
POWER OF THE IMAGINATION.

“One of the most striking instances of the amazing influence which the imagination possesses, not over the feelings merely, but upon the actual state and functions of the bodily organization, is related by professor Hufeland; this case is so interesting, and, we may add, so instructive, that we are tempted, notwithstanding its length, to lay it before our readers.

“A student at Jena, about sixteen years of age, having a weak and irritable nervous frame, but in other respects healthy, left his apartments during twilight, and suddenly returned with a pale, dismal countenance, assuring his companion that he was doomed to die in thirty-six hours, or at nine o'clock in the morning of the second day.—This sudden change of a cheerful young mind, naturally alarmed his friend; but no explanation was given of its cause. Every attempt at ridiculing this whimsical notion was fruitless, and he persisted in affirming that his death was certain and inevitable. A numerous circle of his fellow-students soon assembled, with a view to dispel those gloomy ideas, and to convince him of his folly, by arguments, satire and mirth. He remained, however, unshaken in his strange conviction; being apparently inanimate in their company, and expressing his indignation at the frolics and witticisms applied to his peculiar situation. Nevertheless, it was conjectured that a calm repose during the night would produce a more favourable change in his fancy; but sleep was banished, and the approaching dissolution engrossed his attention during the nocturnal hours. Early next morning, he sent for professor Hufeland, who found him employed in mak-

ing arrangements for his burial; taking an affectionate leave of his friends; and on the point of concluding a letter to his father: in which he announced the fatal catastrophe that was speedily to happen. After examining his condition of mind and body, the professor could discover no remarkable deviation from his usual state of health, excepting a small contracted pulse, a pale countenance, dull or drowsy eyes, and cold extremities: these symptoms, however, sufficiently indicated a general spasmodic action of the nervous system, which also exerted its influence over the mental faculties. The most serious reasoning on the subject, and all the philosophical and medical eloquence of Dr. Hufeland had not the desired effect; and though the student admitted that there might be no ostensible cause of death discoverable, yet this very circumstance was peculiar to his case; and such was his inexorable destiny, that he must die next morning, without any visible morbid symptoms. In this dilemma, Dr. Hufeland proposed to treat him as a patient. Politeness induced the latter to accept of such offer, but he assured the physician that medicines would not operate. As no time was to be lost, there being only twenty-four hours left for his life, Dr. Hufeland deemed proper to direct such remedies as prove powerful excitants, in order to rouse the vital energy of his pupil, and to relieve him from his captivated fancy.

Hence he prescribed a strong emetic and purgative; ordered blisters to be applied to both calves of the legs, and at the same time stimulating clysters to be administered. Quietly submitting to the doctor's treatment, he observed, that his body being already half a corpse, all means of recovering it would be in vain. Indeed Dr. Hufeland was not a little surprised, on his repeating his visit in the evening, to learn that the emetic had but very little operated, and that the blisters had not even reddened the skin.—The case became more serious; and the supposed victim of death began to triumph over the incredulity of the professor and his friends. Thus circumstanced, Dr. Hufeland perceived, how deeply and destructively that mental spasm must have acted on the body, to produce a degree of insensibility from which the worst consequences might be apprehended. All the inquiries into the origin of this singular belief had hitherto been unsuccessful. Now only, he disclosed the secret to one of his intimate friends, namely, that on the preceding evening he had met with a white figure in the passage, which nodded to him, and, in the same moment, he heard a voice exclaiming—“The day after to-morrow, at nine o'clock in the morning, thou shalt die!”—He continued to settle his domestic affairs; made his will; minutely appointed his funeral; and even desired his friends to send for a clergyman; which request, however, was counteracted.—Night appeared, and he began to compute the hours he had to live, till the ominous next morning. His anxiety evidently increased with the striking of every clock within hearing. Dr. Hufeland was not without apprehension, when he recollected instances in which mere imagination had produced melancholy effects; but, as every thing depended on procrastinating, or retarding that hour in which the event was predicted; and on appeasing the tempest on a perturbed imagination, till reason had again obtained the ascendancy, he resolved upon the following expedient: Having a complaisant patient, who refused not to take the remedies prescribed for him, (because he seemed conscious of the su-

perior agency of his mind over that of the body,) Dr. Hufeland had recourse to laudanum, combined with the extract of hen-bane: twenty drops of the former, and two grains of the latter, were given to the youth, with such effect, that he fell into a profound sleep, from which he did not awake till eleven o'clock on the next morning. Thus, the prognosticated fatal hour elapsed; and his friends, waiting to welcome the bashful patient, who had agreeably disappointed them, turned the whole affair into ridicule. The first question, however, after recovering from this artificial sleep, was—"What is the hour of the morning?" On being informed that his presages had not been verified by experience, he assured the company that all these transactions appeared but a dream. After that time, he long enjoyed a good state of health, and was completely cured of a morbid imagination."

"Had this youth fallen into less sagacious hands, the event would, it is more than probable, have answered to the prediction; and the occurrence would have stood as irrefragable evidence of that creed which imagines that the times have not long since passed of individual and immediate communication between the world of sense and the world of spirits. How the fancy originated, it is difficult to say; but it is not less difficult to explain the phenomena of dreams."

"In the Zoonomia, we meet with the following well authenticated tale, which has been versified by Mr. Wadsworth:

"A young farmer in Warwickshire, finding his hedges broken, and the sticks carried away during a frosty season, determined to watch for the thief. He lay many cold hours under a haystack, and at length an old woman, like a witch in a play, approached and began to pull up the hedge; he waited till she had tied her bundle of sticks, and was carrying them off, that he might convict her of the theft, and then springing from his concealment, he seized his prey with violent threats. After some altercation, in which her load was left upon the ground, she kneeled upon the bundle of sticks, and raising her arms to heaven, beneath the bright moon, then at the full, spoke to the farmer, already shivering with cold, "Heaven grant that thou mayest never know again the blessing to be warm." He complained of cold all the next day, and wore an upper coat, and in a few days, another, and in a fortnight, took to his bed, always saying nothing made him warm; he covered himself with very many blankets, and had a sieve over his face as he lay; and from this one insane idea, he kept his bed above twenty years, for fear of the cold air, till at length he died."

"Sauvages relates a similar incident, upon the authority of Zacutus Lusitanus, of a melancholic who was always complaining of invincible cold, till he was subjected by artifice to a large quantity of spirits of wine in a state of combustion; he was convinced, from his sensations during this experiment, that he was capable of feeling heat, and thenceforth his cold left him. Dr. Haygarth, it will be in the recollection of many of our readers, operated very important changes in the bodily functions of several individuals who were, as they supposed, brought under the agency of Perkins' tractors, in reality merely acted upon by pieces of rotten wood, or rusty iron;—under this supposition, however, several chronic maladies, which had refused to yield to medicine, were materially mitigated, and at least temporarily cured."

In the following well-pointed, but good-natured fable, the application of which is easily understood, we recognize the pen of a poet who has often successfully indulged his vein of pleasantry.

A FABLE,

For Connecticut folks and others, as the case may be.

"Mutato nomine de te fabula narratur."

A canine Species, plumply nourish'd,
In days of Æsop, talk'd and flourish'd;
On a fine Island, well located,
With wealth and prowess much elated,
Seiz'd Neptune's trident, car and thunder,
And claim'd his patent-right to plunder.
Their laws were just for *some*—while *others*
Were us'd as bastards by their brothers.
Till forc'd by wrongs to separation,
These form'd an *independent nation*.

When long the monarchy had thriven,
At last, this part far off were driven,
Across a pond—or else were thrown
In prison, for their *canting tone*:
To make these stiff-rump sinners humbler
And still each non-conforming grumbler,
For dogs of yore, (as was most rational)
Had Hierarchies and orders national;
To teach plebian curs good manners,
Or fit their hides for use of Tanner;
To wind the system up still tighter,
They stole from CERBERUS his *mitre*:
And *toleration* so absurd—
Was not a Dictionary word.
Some pilloried, with ears cropp'd shorter,
Fled for their lives, the *land of Porter*;
Not *Lot* left home with more activity,
Than these the place of their nativity.
Where many a *Rev'rence*, *Grace* and *Cur-ship*,
Made dev'lish work with their sky worship.
In church and state, this zeal was *laud-ed*;
While some were burnt, the rest applauded.

At first, these *outcasts* own'd allegiance,
And paid the *Parent State* obedience:
Most of their chiefs, by them elected,
Their land and freedom they protected.

The *mother Country* felt no grudges,
To send them Governors and Judges.

But tir'd of vice-roy mongrel whelps,
They set up government themselves.
Unknown, unnotic'd, unbefriended,
'Twas long before their struggles ended.
In dreary wilds, midst many mad dogs,
Long years, they pass'd the life of sad dogs.
How long their difficulties lasted,
How much they whin'd and pin'd and fasted;
What tricks were play'd upon these travellers;
How cunningly they trick'd their cavillers;
How their petitions were rejected,
And how their *Kennels* they protected;
How bold they grew from monster quelling,
There's neither time nor room for telling.
Attack'd, at home, by *blood-relations*,
They beat them off from all their stations.
By land and sea, in fine, victorious,
Peace made them happy, free and glorious.
Finish'd all foreign claims and quarrels,
Brim-full of meat, and crown'd with laurels,
What more could wish these favor'd elves?
Alas! to quarrel with themselves.
To logger-heads, about their dishes,
The *Bull-dogs* went for *loaves and fishes*.

One little District, fraught with knowledge
Was famous for its schools and college;
For valued institutions noted,
A second Athens, well nigh, voted.
Yet these shrewd pups, with rash dexterity,
Would aim a blow at their prosperity.

Instead of ancient *steady habits*,
Of hunting foxes, wolves, bears, rabbits,
(For *Aborigenes* had thinn'd off,
And *game*, in turn, began to wind off.)
Greedy of gain and office titles,
They turn'd their teeth on their own vitals;
And growling sounds, from *Caucus Den*,
Show'd dogs, when mad, are just like men.

Now nought was seen and heard but fighting,
Town-meetings, squabbling, spouting, writing,
Calling hard names in all their speeches.
Feds, Demos, Curs, and Sons of B——s.

At length was found a *hound sagacious*
For *Moderator*, not loquacious,
But fill'd with grave experience'd sapience—
Not caring for their votes a ha'pence,
By pelf or place ne'er set agog,
Deem'd quite an independent dog;
Who thus, in council, warn'd the dogs,
"Grow poultry, cattle, sheep, and hogs.
Quarrel no more for *bone* or *bonus*,"
And *mighty good* will come upon us—
Enough your native State will yield,
No puppy needs go more afield.
Your Pilgrim-Sires, a patriot band,
For valour fam'd throughout the land,
In peace, as in our revolution,
Adher'd like wax to constitution;
In their blue code, to us descended,
Perchance, there's something might be mended.
Whate'er is bad, change when you will,
But keep your good old habits still.
Be not degenerate whipper-snappers,
Nor cut, like madcap monkeys, capers."

Hound, Mastiff, Spaniel, Pointer, Harrier,
The Wolf-dog, Sheep-dog, Lap-dog, Terrier,
Even dogs of every kind and station,
Bark'd their assent "*by acclamation*."

MORAL.

So be contentions always ended.
Destroy not. Be the imperfect mended.
Others reform. Make no demurring.
Improve in all things. Up! be stirring!
Nor, smit with rage of innovation.
Misname destruction, *melioration*. [*Boston Centinel*].

MODERN BRITISH POETS.

'*Modern Poets*'—Under this title, an ingenious writer in the London Observer, indulging in a lawful fiction, brings Boswell (in a dream) from the shades, who relates a conversation between Dr. Johnson, Sir Joshua Reynolds, &c. in the world of spirits, in which the following opinions are expressed concerning Campbell, Moore, Southey, Scott, &c.

'What think you, sir, of Campbell as a poet?' I put this question to him with some alarm; knowing that Campbell was a Scotchman, and knowing the good man's antipathy to the Scotch. 'I think Campbell a poet. He has written little, but he has written well. He succeeds in the lofty, and excels in the pathetic. I read his Gertrude of Wyoming lately, and think it a pleasing poem. He has made Pennsylvania a pretty place, sir.' 'Do you, think, sir,' said I, 'that he should write oftener?' 'Yes, sir! unless he thinks he should write worse. He seems to me

an idle man, which is not national in him. But Campbell is a poet, and I like him well!' Sir Joshua asked the great man if he had read any of Moore's works—'I have read them, sir, and I like their fancies vastly. But they are too classical for the young, and too luxurious for the old; they confuse youth in a mystic depravity, and elevate age with amorous recollections.' 'But,' said sir Joshua, 'you speak now of his early poems: there is surely great feeling and unblemished fancy in his latter productions.' 'His Irish melodies are indeed the melodies of Ireland. They are national; and not like Twiss' melodies of Scotland, which ought to be called the Discords of Twiss. Sir, Moore is a patriot as well as a poet. He makes me love his country. But he should not continue to circulate the melodious immoralities of his boyhood. When once the muse forfeits her chastity, she stains her beauty and insults her comeliness. Moore, sir, writes such songs as will sing of themselves: Twiss writes such as no one can sing.' I observed that Moore appeared to have read the old theological writers well. 'Sir, he has, and in his boyish books he tacked the notes of Old Divinity on the verses of Young Desire. Sir, he made Anacreon and Martin Luther join hands and dance a reel together. He made Beda hold a candle to the devil.' Sir Joshua Reynolds thought that Moore was as powerful in the fanciful as in the pathetic. I ventured to support the same opinion. 'You are both wrong. Moore is as commanding in his pathos as he is captivating in his fancy; he would sooner make me weep than dance.' I spoke of his sociality. 'Sir, (said the great moralist) Moore is a sprightly man.' I observed that it was said he sung well. 'Sir, (said the doctor angrily,) that has nothing to do with the nature of his poetry. Singing is not genius. Moore's immortality will not depend upon his own voice, but on the voice of distant ages. You stray from the argument.'

Southey.—'What think you, Doctor, of Southey? Is he not a great poet?' I felt that I had put a lucky question to him—for his features bespoke the working of his mind.—'Southey, sir, is a vast writer. He inundates one with a deluge of prose and verse. I would not be the muse of this bard for all the honours she may get. Her place is a place of all work. Southey, sir, is a court poet: and I now think that a man cannot speak freely and truly there at the same time. He has genius, but he wants moderation. His mind thinks more than his hand can write, and his hand writes more than posterity will read.'

I changed by speaking of Walter Scott. *Sir Joshua*.—'I have always admired the richness of Scott's descriptions, and really look on him as a painter of poets. He colours richly and from nature.' *Johnson*.—'Walter Scott is a pretty poet, sir, but he puts too many trees into his scenery for Scotch scenery. He makes a Tivoli of the Highlands.' I remarked, that he ought to be a little ornamental. 'But, sir, you may dress a truth so finely that it may look like a lie. Walter is, however, a nice writer: he reminds one of chivalrous times, and I love him for it. I have read his Lay, and I think it a good thing.' *Sir Joshua*.—'Have you read Marmion? The battle is full of fire.' 'So a battle ought to be; Walter Scott makes a stupendous battle. Marmion, sir, is a very magnificent rascal.' I observed that it was a bold character. *Johnson*.—'sir, you might as well talk of the character of a highwayman. Marmion is a bold

* *Bonus* of the Phoenix Bank.

black villian : you must not say character. Macbeth is not a good character ; he is a Marmion, without his fine clothes and name.' He further said, 'He writes too much to win an untarnished fame. He sacrifices worth to quantity, which will injure his immortality. Fame, sir, is but the reflection of genius in the stream of time'—*Sir Joshua*—'I think Walter Scott amongst poets, is what Westall was amongst painters, an excellent mannerist.' *Johnson*—'Sir, I remember the features of Walter's heroes so well, that I should know one if I saw him in a crowd of other robbers. Marmion and Bertram, and William of Delorain, are brothers. They are black bearded ruffians, and do not know their letters. Here Burke joined us, and I looked forward to a lively conversation. I asked Dr. Johnson what he thought of Amos Cottle. 'Sir, I never heard of him'.

CASE OF HYDROPHOBIA.

Madame Bruneau, wife of Mr. ——— Bruneau, of the Ordnance Department, had her arm violently lacerated by the bite of a cat, about the commencement of November last. The animal fastened upon her with such ferocity, that it would not loosen its hold until some of its bones were broken—it was immediately killed. The laceration was washed with brine, and dressed with some domestic remedy, such as the family had been in the habit of applying to wounds and sores. It continued open for several weeks, and healed at last with much difficulty. About the beginning of May, the scars became inflamed and very itchy, attended with a sort of pinching pain which extended in the direction of the lymphatics to the Axilla, and side of the neck. On the morning of the 12th, when attempting to take a little cordial for the relief of a pain in the stomach, she found herself seized with an indescribable feeling of horror and constriction of the throat, as the liquid approached her mouth : attributing this to the smell of the cordial, she tried a little tea, and afterwards, some water ; but the same feeling was excited, the instant she looked at either of these. Her husband being employed in the Ordnance, sent for a medical officer of that department, who immediately attended, and after much inquiry obtained the history above related of the case. Care was taken in putting the necessary questions to the husband that the patient should not hear them, in order that she might have no suspicion of the real nature of the disease ; she, however, overheard some observations that were made about the cat, and instantly exclaimed, 'Ce n'est pas cela car mon enfant a été mordu dans le meme tems que moi.' The case being considered an important one, was reported to the Inspector of hospitals, and permission was obtained from the family to call in an eminent physician, who, upon seeing the case, did not hesitate to coincide in opinion with the Ordnance medical officer, that it was a distinct case of hydrophobia. This opinion was on the following morning further confirmed by that of the Inspector of hospitals, and the surgeon to the forces. Notice was given of the case to all the medical gentlemen in town who could be found. The progress of the disease was so rapid as to afford but little time for medical treatment. Copious bleeding having been latterly recommended from high authority, was put in practice, but with evident disadvantage—large doses of mercurial purgatives (indicated by the state of her bowels) were administered with some degree of tempo-

rary relief—antispasmodics were then attempted to be given, but the power of deglutition was so soon lost, that very little was taken—(about three grains of the extract of *Hyosciamus*.) The same sense of horror, and spasmodic constriction of the throat, &c. were excited by looking at a mirror, or any other substance having a polished reflecting surface. On the morning of the 13th, these sensations came on spontaneously, and very frequently followed by violent convulsions, the moment any liquid was brought in sight—the power of swallowing solids now began to diminish, and by ten o'clock not even the saliva could be got down, but issued abundantly out of the mouth, in a viscid and stringy state—From this moment, the convulsions continued incessantly, until two P. M. when she died. The body became perfectly putrid in a few hours after her decease.

Quebec l'aper.

DEATH OF HAYDN.

Haydn, at the age of 78, died at Vienna, during the attack of that capital by the French in 1809. The following account of his death, which we extract from a life of that celebrated composer, recently published, is not destitute of interest :

"On my return to the Austrian capital, I have to inform you my dear friend, that the larva of Haydn has also quitted us. That great man no longer exists, except in our memory. I have often told you, that he was become extremely weak before he entered his 78th year. It was the last of his life. No sooner did he approach his piano-forte, than the vertigo returned, and his hands quitted the keys to take up the rosary, that last consolation.

"The war broke out between Austria and France. This intelligence roused Haydn and exhausted the remnant of his strength. He was continually inquiring for news ; he went every moment to his piano, and sang, with the small thread of voice which he yet retained—

'God preserve the Emperor!'

"The French armies advanced with gigantic strides. At length, on the night of the 10th of May, having reached Schonbrunn, half a league's distance from Haydn's little garden, they fired, the next morning, fifteen hundred cannon shot within two yards of his house, upon Vienna, the town which he so much loved. The old man's imagination represented it as given up to fire and sword. Four bombs fell close to his house. His two servants ran to him, full of terror. The old man, rousing himself, got up from his easy chair, and, with a dignified air, demanded, 'why this terror ? know that no disaster can come where Haydn is.' A convulsive shivering prevented him from proceeding, and he was carried to his bed. On the 26th of May, his strength diminished sensibly. Nevertheless, having caused himself to be carried to his piano, he sung thrice, as loud as he was able—

'God preserve the Emperor!'

It was the song of the swan. While at the piano, he fell into a kind of stupor, and, at last, expired on the morning of the 31st, aged 78 years and two months.

"Madame de Kurzbeck, at the moment of the occupation of Vienna, had entreated him to allow of his being removed to her house, in the interior of the city ; he thanked her, but declined leaving his beloved retreat.

"During all his life, Haydn was very religious. Without assuming the preacher, it may be said, that his talent was increased by his sincere

faith in the truths of religion. At the commencement of all his scores, the following words are described: *In Nomine Domini*, or *Soli Deo gloria*; and at the conclusion of all of them, is written—*Laus Deo*.

"When, in composing, he felt the ardour of his imagination decline, or was stopped by some insurmountable difficulty, he rose from the piano forte, and began to run over his rosary. He said, that he never found this method fail.

"When I was employed upon the creation," said he, "I felt myself so penetrated with religious feeling, that, before I sat down to the piano-forte, I prayed to God with earnestness, that he would enable me to praise him worthily."

London Paper.

ROYAL LONGEVITY.

There are now living sixteen Sovereigns in Europe, who are of or above three-score years of age! The British king is the oldest, having almost completed his 79th year. The Duke of Anhalt Dessau is 77 years old—the Pope 75—the Elector of Hesse 74.—Henry XII. of Reuss 70; the King of Sweden 69; the Langrave of Hesse-Homburg 69; the King of Saxony 67; the King of the two Sicilies 66; the King of Sardinia 66; the King of France 62; the king of Bavaria 61; the Duke of Oldenburg 61; the Grand Duke of Mecklenburg-Schwerin 60; the Grand Duke of Hesse 60; and the Grand Duke of Saxe-Weimar 60.

It may amuse the reader to learn the ages of the other Potentates of the world:—

The King of Portugal is 50 years of age; the Emperor of Austria 49; the King of Denmark 49; the King of Prussia 47; the King of the Netherlands 45; the Emperor of Russia 40; the King of Wurtemberg 36; the King of Spain 33; the Sultan Mahomet 32; the Duke of Saxe-Cobourg 31; and the Dutchess of Parma (late Empress of France) 26. The latter has renounced her title of Empress. A proclamation before us begins:—"We, Maria Louisa, Imperial Princess and Archduchess of Austria, by the Grace of God, Duchess of Parma, Placentia, Guastella," &c. &c.

London Paper.

GAS LIGHTS AND WHALE FISHERY.

The Engineer of a Gas Light Company, has stated before a Committee of the house of Commons, that every mile of pipe, or conductor of the gas, costs the Company 2000*l.*; that the Company at this time, consumes about 28 chaldrons of coal per day; that if they increased their capital by about 200,000*l.* their probable consumption will be about 30,000 chaldrons annually. A coal merchant who was examined, thought it would require 100 men to raise from the pits 30,000 chaldrons of coal in the year, and to put them on board the vessels; it would require about 40 horses, and 17 ships of 300 tons, to convey them to London; each ship to make eight voyages annually; there would be required also ten men for each vessel. That the Company burning annually 30,000 chaldrons of coals, they would pay annually to government 13,000*l.* duty per annum.

The Whale Fishery employs eleven thousand

men, and more than 1000 apprentices, who navigate 200 large ships, in fitting out which near 100,000 persons are benefitted, as boat and ship builders.

English Magazine.

WARS BETWEEN FRANCE AND ENGLAND.

The following account of wars between France and England, is taken from the Evangelical Magazine, printed in London, January, 1813. The left hand column gives the year in which the several wars commenced, from the year 1110 to 1813—the right hand column gives the duration of each war.

War		Commenced	
Commenced	years.	Commenced	years.
A. D.		A. D.	
1110 contin'd.	2	1549 contin'd	1
1141	1	1557	2
1161	25	1562	2
1211	15	1627	2
1224	19	1665	1
1294	5	1689	10
1332	21	1703	11
1363	52	1744	4
1422	49	1756	7
1492	1m.	1776	7
1512	2	1793	9
1511	6	1803	10

From this shocking account it appears, that the number of wars was 24; that 260 years of the 700 were employed by these nations in butchering one another; that from 1161 to 1471, a term of 310 years, 186 were spent in war; that from 1363 they were at war 101 years in 103—having a peace only of two years duration.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

It is with no little mortification that we are again obliged to apologize to our mathematical friends for the omission of their favours this month, which is done for the accommodation of our printer, to whom the Mathematical Lucubrations were furnished at so late an hour, that it would have occasioned him an inconvenient delay to complete the department. As we are now provided with proper types, the questions and solutions will, hereafter, appear regularly.

ERRATA.

We hope ere long to be able to dispense with this table altogether. We have to notice the following errors only, as material, which may be found in a few copies.

Page 94, col. 2, line 15 from bottom, for *plan* read *place*; page 106, col. 1, line 19 from top, for *probaque* read *proboque*.